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THE claims of the two rival forms of textthe longer Greek and the Syriac-having been thus set aside, there remains but the middle form. Either this is genuine, or else the Ignatian letters, if ever written, did not survive. But the latter supposition is opposed by a mass of external evidence such as can scarcely be parallelled in the case of any other ancient document. That the collection of seven Ignatian letters was known to Eusebius has already been mentioned; and, not to speak of some other evidence, the letters are cited by Irenaeus before the end of the second century. That the letters were known to Lucian in the same century is believed by Renan and was even owned by Baur, who, though regarding the letters as spurious, ascribes to the forgery no later date than the age of the Antonines. But the evidence goes still farther back, and is, in fact, absolutely contemporaneous, for there is extant an epistle of Polycarp, accompanying a transmission of Ignatian letters to the Philippian Church, made before that Church had had time to hear of the martyrdom of Ignatius. It has thus become a vital matter with those who would assert the spuriousness of the Ignatian letters, to assert the spuriousness of Polycarp's letter also, although that letter is attested by Polycarp's disciple Irenaeus, and although, except for the testimony it bears to the Ignatian Epistles, there is not the smallest ground for suspicion. But we owe to Lightfoot an observation which enormously increases the difficulties of those who would reject Polycarp's epistle. According to their theory, it must have been forged with the express object of giving an attestation to the Ignatian forgery, and, therefore, must have proceeded from the same workshop as the latter. But when Poly-carp's letter is compared with those of Ignatius, we find that if ever internal evidence can afford proof of diversity of authorship we have it here. In style, diction, modes of thought, there is not only no resemblance, but there is such contrast as we could not have expected to find between two contemporary Christian documents. The details of Lightfoot's comparison cannot be here reproduced; suffice it to say that, while the Ignatian letters are strongly marked by individuality and originality, the epistle of Polycarp is essentially commonplace; while the latter letter is full of Scriptural

quotations, sentence after sentence being frequently made up of passages from the evangelical or apostolical writings, the obligations to the New Testament in the Ignatian letters are both much more rare and of a quite different character, New Testament sayings, in the one case, being copied almost word for word, in the other case, merely furnishing suggestions and undergoing some modification in the mind of the writer. In doctrinal statements there is equal difference, the points of doctrine about which the one is most solicitous being scarcely touched on by the other. Lastly, a prominent feature in the Ignatian epistles is their insistance on the duty of adherence to the bishop, so that those who believe the letters to be spurious commonly hold also that the advancement of episcopacy was the motive of the forgery; but Polycarp's letter is so silent on this subject that it is strongly doubted whether the church which he addressed had a bishop at

From external evidence we pass to internal. If the Ignatian letters were forged late in the second century, the forger's object must surely have been to strengthen, by the authority of a venerable father, some side in the controversies of his own time. But the Ignatian letters deal only with the questions which were debated in the early part of the second century, and not at all with those which became matters of dispute later on. For example, disputes about the observance of Easter nearly caused a schism in the Church towards the end of the second century; but the Ignatian letters have not a word about Quartodecimanism. Not a word either about Montanism, nor about the views of any of the great Gnostic teachers who formed schools in the middle or earlier part of the second century. In one passage, indeed, it had been supposed that there was a clear reference to Valentinianism; and earlier defenders of the Ignatian epistles had taken pains to show that the language of Ignatius might be understood as applying to teaching older than Valentinus. But, so long ago as 1868, Lightfoot gave a far simpler solution of the difficulty, which he showed arose from the wrong insertion in the epistle of a negative rejected by the oldest authorities for the text. According to the true reading, the language of Ignatius, instead of being a protest against Valentinian terminology, presents a striking coincidence with it. There was, therefore, every reason why the negative should afterwards be inserted by orthodox transcribers, but none why, if genuine, it should be omitted. This coincidence, then, with Valentinian phraseology, a phenomenon of which Lightfoot gives other examples, becomes a proof that the Ignatian letters are pre-Valentinian, for such phraseology was avoided by orthodox writers after it had come to be connected with heretical associations.

Lightfoot has been highly successful in refuting objections founded on supposed anachronisms in the epistles, of which need here only be mentioned that he gives two examples of the use of the word "leopard" considerably earlier than had been produced before. His arguments, founded on the general characteristics of the style of the epistle, are very forcible; but what carries most weight is the argument founded on the

historical and geographical indications of the letters. Lightfoot, after Zahn, is able to give a history of the details of the journey of Ignatius, made from no direct statements, but from casual notices, subtle allusions and coincidences which we cannot help pronouncing to be undesigned, and to be altogether beyond the reach of a forger.

A word must be added as to an unfortunate theory which would not be worthy of notice if it were not for the greediness with which it was accepted, and the confidence with which it was once asserted: the theory, namely, that Ignatius was martyred at Antioch, and never made the journey to Rome at all. For instance, Davidson (Introduction N. T., 1865, i. 19) says "Ignatius was not thrown to the wild beasts in the Amphitheatre at Rome by command of Trajan, but at Antioch, on December 20, A.D. 115." Again (ii. 369):

"The so-called Ignatius is not an apostolic father. The productions bearing his name were not prior to the middle of the second century. The three epistles supposed to be oldest were written after A.D. 160. If the three were enlarged to seven, such extension did not take place till ten years after (A.D. 170) . . . . It is well ascertained that Ignatius's journey to Rome to suffer martyrdom there is mythical, and his letters forgeries. He died at Antioch, not Rome, A.D. 115, when Trajan spent the winter at Antioch while he was on his Parthian expedition."

No authority for these positive statements is given; for this writer belongs to what I have been justly censured for elsewhere calling the sceptical school, and which certainly would be more properly described as the dogmatic school. In like manner the author of Supernatural Religion, i. 273, says:

"It has been demonstrated that Ignatius was not sent to Rome at all, but suffered martyrdom in Antioch itself on the 20th December, A.D. 115, where he was condemned to be cast to wild beasts in the amphitheatre, in consequence of the fanatical excitement produced by the earthquake which took place on the 13th of that month."

Davidson in his second edition (1882, i. 9, ii. 328) repeats his statements concerning the place of the martyrdom, but in the former place now condescends to give an authority. He adds:

"This rests upon the authority of John Malalas, which Uhlhorn pronounces worthless. In spite, however, of the ready assertion it may not be so, even though an earlier testimony and a Syriac menologium seem to disagree and are, therefore, paraded in opposition."

Anyone reading this would imagine that the rejection of the authority of Malalas was but the desperate resource of an apologist driven into a corner. But Davidson could not have referred to the passage to which he appeals; for anyone who had read what Malalas proceeds to tell in the very next sentence would have been ashamed to cite him as a credible witners. Malalas wrote in the latter part of the sixth century, and to say that "an" carlier testimony "seems" to disagree with him is a very gentle way of stating the fact that he is flatly contradicted by every earlier writer without exception who has occasion to speak of the martyrdom of Ignatius. Those who care to see a butterfly broken on the wheel may

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consult Lightfoot's examination of this theory (ii. 435, sq.); but the coup de grâce is administered by a correction of the date of the commemoration of Ignatius. The whole theory rests on the assumed facts that the earthquake at Antioch took place December 13, and the martyrdom of Ignatius December 20. Volkmar jumped to the conclusion that the two events must have taken place in the same year, and the one been the cause of the other. We need not enquire whether the terrible season of the earthquake (the shocks of which, we are told, were repeated during many days and nights) was a likely period for the exhibition of wild beast shows. For it has been now ascertained that the commemoration of Ignatius on December 20 did not begin until, at soonest, the fifth century. The earlier day of celebration was October 17; and a sermon of Chrysostom shows that it was still on this day the feast was kept in his time. Lightfoot remarks that this date for the martyrdom is in itself not improbable. Ignatius was at Troas, about to embark for Rome, on August 24; and an interval of seven or eight weeks suits very well for the time between the embarkation and the martyrdom. Moreover, the tribunicial power was conferred on Trajan in the month of October, and commemorative games might very possibly have been held in that month. But he attaches no value to these combinations, there being no evidence to warrant us in asserting that October 17 was fixed for the feast from real knowledge that it was the day of the martyrdom.

The Acts, which purport to relate the martyrdom of Ignatius, are now on all hands given up as spurious. They were certainly unknown to Eusebius, who otherwise would not have failed to include at least extracts from them in his Ecclesiastical History; and they cannot be reconciled with the genuine-ness of the Ignatian Epistle to the Romans. It is quite conceivable that there were at Rome Christians influential enough to be able to gain the liberation of an insignificant unit among the host of prisoners sent up from the provinces to be "butchered to make a Roman holiday." Ignatius had probably good reason for knowing that interest was being made for thus obtaining his release, and he wrote to deprecate it. But if the emperor had heard his case personally at Antioch, and had himself sentenced him to the beasts, it is inconceivable that anyone at Rome should have been thought likely to reverse the con-demnation. Lightfoot joins in the rejection of the Ignatian Acts. and (p. 592) discovers in the language of Eusebius a distinct intimation that the Acts of Polycarp formed the earliest written record of a martyrdom with which he was acquainted. But he gives an interesting discussion of the two forms of these spurious Acts. He takes no notice of a suggestion of Zahn's that the martyr Ignatius was probably not, as we are apt to imagine, a venerable old man, but a strong man in middle life, else he would not have been sent up to Rome as likely to show good fight in the amphitheatre. But the combat of an unarmed man with a wild beast is essentially so unequal that it requires an experience which we happily do not possess to be able to say that a young man in such a position would afford to the spectators a more exciting spectacle than an old one.

The account of Polycarp's martyrdom, as has been just mentioned, was known to Eusebius, and accepted by him as authentic. Lightfoot (p. 588 sq.) both confirms this opinion by earlier testimony, and successfully refutes objections that had been raised. In one case (p. 600) his Greek scholarship comes well into play in correcting a false translation by Keim. the letters containing the account of the martyrdom are appended three paragraphs of postscript, which are not included in the extracts made by Eusebius. The first of these paragraphs is chronological, and gives the date of the martyrdom. In addition to other arguments establishing the authenticity of this note, Lightfoot makes an interesting and original remark. The opening of the letter which relates the martyrdom distinctly imitates the opening of the Epistle of Clement of Rome; this paragraph, which purports to be the conclusion of the letter, distinctly imitates the conclusion of the same epistle. Such a coincidence could scarcely have been hit on by a forger. The external evidence for the second paragraph is weaker, but in-ternal evidence is favourable. The third paragraph, which professes to give the history of the transmission of the document, is rejected by Lightfoot, who ascribes it to the author of the fictitious life of Polycarp which bears the name of Pionius. Later on he refers to the same author a note appended to the Moscow MS. of the martyrdom, in which it is related that at the precise hour when Polycarp suffered, Irenaeus, then sojourning at Rome, heard a voice as of a trumpet, saying, Polycarp has been martyred. The ascription of this note to pseudo-Pionius, who deals largely in the miraculous, is so satisfacfactory an account of the matter that I read with considerable astonishment the note (p. 439) where references for parallels to this alleged occurrence are made to the Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research and other sources.

Lightfoot investigates the year of Polycarp's martyrdom, and states forcibly the reasons which have led the best critics of the present age to place it A.D. 155, about a dozen years earlier than former writers, who followed the authority of Eusebius, had placed it. He investigates, also, theories of the day, and among others one that I put forward in the ACADEMY, and in this case, I am sorry to say, with an unfavourable result. No satisfactory explanation had been given why the 2nd Xanthicus, on which the martyrdom is stated to have occurred, should have been a "great Sabbath," as is also stated. I pointed out that if we suppose a lunar, not a solar, calendar, to have been used, the 2nd Xanthicus would indeed have been a very great Sabbath, as being the first day of the Jewish ecclesiastical year, and that the 2nd Xanthicus actually was a Sabbath in the year 155. But Lightfoot has given sufficient proof that the lunar calendar had been replaced at Smyrna by a solar one a considerable time before the date of Polycarp's martyrdom. His investigations as to the date of this change are extremely interesting. When a case has been fully heard before a competent and impartial judge, it is idle to appeal against his sentence unless new evidence can be produced, so that my solution must be regarded as, if not killed, at least in a condi- literature which the English Church has made

tion of suspended animation until new evidence can be found for it.

I should own it to have been killed outright, if it were not that Lightfoot has not been successful in finding another explanation for the "great Sabbath." He revives Liveley's explanation that the day was so called because it coincided with the feast of Purim; but I had considered and rejected this explanation before attempting a new one. The feast of Purim was ordained to be held on the 14th day of the month Adar. It is unnecessary to discuss the difficulty raised by Wieseler whether this day could ever fall so early as February 23, because it certainly did not in the year 155. In that year the new moon fell on February 19; the moon would not be visible until February 20 at soonest, and February 23 could not have been more than the fourth day of the month. It could never have been taken for the fourteenth. The only other year within our limits when February 23 fell on Saturday was 166, and then also February 23 came quite early in the month.

Lightfoot hopes to escape difficulties of this kind by a vague suggestion that the Jewish feasts at the time were regulated not by astronomical observation, but by a cycle unknown to us. But this suggestion gives no relief. The heavenly bodies do not move with absolute uniformity, so that the best cycle will not accurately represent their motions, and an indifferent cycle may go a good deal wrong before its error is found out. In the same way, the best watch will not represent true solar time, and an indifferent watch may be many minutes wrong, and yet be thought by its owner to suffice for practical purposes. But, in both cases there are limits to the amount of error which can be tolerated. No one out of Wonderland would care to use a watch which marked noon at the hour of sunrise, and so neither would anyone care to use a cycle which indicated full moon when it really was new moon. If such laxity as this in the use of cycles were conceivable, we could easily explain the text, which, according to a strongly attested reading, seems to speak of an eclipse of the sun as taking place at the crucifixion. We might hold that it really was new moon at the time, though according to the erroneous cycle used by the Jews, it was full moon.

Thus, every explanation that has been offered of the "great Sabbath" must be regarded as having failed; but I think my theory stands as good a chance as any other of coming to life again by the recovery of new evidence. What is needed is some proof that the lunar calendar lingered on in Christian circles after the solar was adopted by the civil authorities. Nay, that needs no proof, because for ecclesiastical purposes a lunar calendar continues in use to this day; and at the date with which we are concerned, the lunar month which in former days had been called Xanthicus was certainly carefully observed in order to do honour to its fourteenth day. What needs to be proved is that Christians continued to call this month Xanthicus.

I am sorry that the necessary limits of a notice in the ACADEMY oblige me to do but scanty justice to what is, perhaps, the most important permanent addition to ecclesiastical in our generation. Suffice it here to say that the title of the book gives a very imperfect idea of the varied character of its contents, for it goes near to completing the external history of the Church during the first half of the second century, carefully discussing all the cases of persecution or stories of martyrdom that belong to this period. I hope it is not wrong if our gratitude for the present volumes takes the form of a lively sense of benefits still to come; for it may well be hoped that one who, during the labours of an arduous episcopate, has managed to find time for so much work on Ignatius will be able to give the world some more instalments of the materials he has accumulated for the illustration of the Pauline Epistles and of other Apostolic Fathers.

For the sake of the next edition, I record three slips of the pen which I have noted: "A.D." for "B.C.," p. 23; "Ignatius" for "Irenaeus," p. 328; and "four" for "five," ii. 74. Geo. Salmon.

A Voyage to the Fortunate Isles, and other Poems. By Sarah M. B. Piatt. (Kegan Paul, Trench, & Co.)

The author of these poems and her work are well known on the other side of the Atlantic; and two tiny volumes of verse have recently introduced her, very favourably, to English readers. The present book contains a rich and excellently selected gathering from Mrs. Piatt's various works issued in America; and it will undoubtedly win a warm welcome from the lovers of poetry among us, and extend the radius of her influence and reputation.

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Mrs. Piatt's verses are characterised by a distinct and pleasing originality. In diction and the technique of her art generally she has learned much from the modern poets, and the influence of Mr. Browning, especially, is unmistakable; but nothing more unfailingly distinguishes her poems than the solid kernel of fresh, original thought and feeling in each of them-thought and feeling which are expressed with careful and conscientious artistry. Though the present volume contains some faulty and imperfect lines, it is at least evident that the author is sufficiently master of her art to make it perform the thing she would. Unlike too many of our minor poets, she is never dragged this way and that by the technical exigencies of her verse, fettered by rhyme and carried by it whither she would not. The longer narrative pieces are hardly those in which this poet is seen at her best. The "Voyage to the Fortunate Isles," from which the book is titled, and "The Brother's Hand," though they each contain striking and powerful passages, are marked by some obscurity and by some uncertainty of touch. It is in the shorter pieces, the embodiment of a meditative or a lyrical mood, that we find the best she has to give us. These treat, with great tenderness and beauty, of love and loss, and of the dim future-that "far land we dream about." Some are written under the stress and pressure of doubt, some show the nobler spectacle of a heart "by faith made strong, by hope made high." Here is a brief and exquisite

poem in which we have the meeting of the two moods:

" THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN.

I know of a higher Mountain. Well?
'Do the flowers grow on it'? No, not one.
'What is its nama?' But I cannot tell.
'Where—?' Nowhere under the sun!

'Is it under the moon, then?' No, the light Has never touched it, and never can; It is fashioned and formed of night, of night Too dark for the eyes of man.

Yet I sometimes think, if my Faith had proved As a grain of mustard seed to me, I could say to this Mountain: 'Be thou removed, And be thou cast in the sea.'"

In "Sometime," a poem unnecessarily marred, we think, by the monotony of the recurrent word which forms its burden, we have a pathetic subject treated in a singularly intimate and poignant fashion.

"Well, either you or I,
After whatever is to say is said,
Must see the other die,
Or hear, through distance, of the other dead,
Sometime.

"Then, through what paths of dew,
What flush of flowers, what glory in the grass,
Only one of us too

Only one of us too,

Even as a shadow walking, blind may pass,

Sometime!

"And, if the nestling song
Break from the bosom of the bird for love,
No more to listen long
One shall be deaf below, one deaf above,
Sometime.

Not a few of the most delicate and successful pieces of the book are to be found in the section titled "In Company with Children." Here the womanly nature of the poet has full scope. Some of the verses are addressed to children; in others some pregnant chance-word from innocent little rosy lips is made the text and point of departure for a subtle and exquisite poem. Nothing could well be more delicate in fancy or ligher in touch than "My Babes in the Wood"—babes gone, vanished and dead, buried by change in the forest of the past:

"Poor slightly golden heads! I think I missed them

First, in some dreamy, piteous, doubtful way; But when and where with lingering lips I kissed them,

My gradual parting, I can never say.

"I fancy, too, that they were softly covered By robins, out of apple-flowers they knew, Whose nursing wings in far home sunshine hovered, Before the timid world had dropped the dew.

"Their names were—what yours are! At this you wonder.

you wonder.
Their pictures are—your own, as you have seen;

And my bird-buried darlings, hidden under
Lost leaves—why, it is your dead selves I
mean!"

The temptation to quote further from this charming volume is almost irresistible, but we must leave the reader to discover the rest of its dainty and its pathetic things for himself. The book entitles its author to a very honourable place in the roll of the women poets of our century, at the head of which stand the names of Mrs. Browning and Miss Rossetti.

J. M. Gray.

A Larger History of the United States of America to the Close of President Jackson's Administration. By Thomas Wentworth Higginson. (Sampson Low.)

THE merits and faults of this book are best met by the convenient formula of Andrew Fairservice, "ower bad for blessing and ower gude for banning." No one can read this history without perceiving that the writer is a man of real literary power, gifted with considerable originality of thought and freshness of expression, with much insight into character and conduct, and with sound conceptions of what constitutes historical evidence. On the other hand no one can go through it and not feel, when he comes to the end, that the writer has failed to fulfil the task which he has set before himself. The most pro-voking part of the matter is that Mr. Higginson has succeeded where success seemed difficult, and has failed where, as we should have thought, mere common-sense would have saved a man of less power. He has proved that he is among that small class of writers who can make a summary of history interesting. He is no partisan or hero-worshipper. Yet he always shows the inner meaning of events, and his characters stand out distinct and life-like. He has gone to the best authorities and used them with judgment. Yet the value of all this is almost neutralised by want of proportion in the book, and by the persistent refusal of the writer to keep before his readers a clear and consecutive thread of

Mr. Higginson begins with three long chapters on what we may call out-lying subjects, cognate to the history of the United States, but certainly not forming an essential part of it. The Mound Builders who have left their traces along the Mississipi and the Ohio, the Norsemen who may have discovered America in the eleventh century, and the Spanish explorers—these between them occupy one-sixth of the entire space which Mr. Higginson has at his disposal. The result is that the whole process of colonisation in New England, in Virginia, in Maryland, and in the Carolinas, and the history of every one of these settlements, from their first establishment down to the War of Independence, is got rid of in a little over a hundred pagesthat is to say, in just four times the space given to the Vikings. The growth of representative institutions in the various States is ignored. The political life of New England under the first and second generations of settlers, the struggle to preserve that life against the attacks of James II., its curtailment by William III .- these are hurried over as unimportant episodes. If this was due to lack of room, why did Mr. Higginson throw away space on what is really but the fringe of his subject? He devotes four pages to the description of a Norse war-ship. Three lines suffices for the history of that confederation which for more than thirty years bound together the Puritan colonies and gave them their earliest schooling in unity. Nor is this all. The portion of Mr. Higginson's history which deals with the epoch of colonisation can hardly be called history at all: it is a comment on history. To anyone who is already familiar with the outline of events it is both pleasant and profitable reading; but assuredly a reader who wanted elementary

information would find it hard to carry away a definite idea of the process, or rather the series of processes, by which the colonies were

created and shaped.

Mr. Higginson's account of the War of Independence is, in some measure, open to the same criticism, but not at all to the same extent. If it is unduly condensed, it is at least clear; and, what is perhaps even more meritorious, it is sober and judicial, while at the same time the writer never affects to rise superior to national sympathies. And at a later stage of the book, when Mr. Higginson comes to deal with the history of political parties in the United States, his work rises to a very high level of merit. Not, indeed, that he quite frees himself from his love of detail on comparatively minor points. One might have been content with rather less minute description of the costumes worn by the various queens of society in Philadelphia or Washington. But it is clear on every page that Mr. Higginson is among men and events with which he is thoroughly familiar. Without much elaboration or formal profession of character-drawing he makes the persons of his story stand out clear and life-like. Above all, he threads his way through that confused and tangled maze of political history which followed the administration of Washington with great clearness, and with a rare mixture of animation and fairness. No writer, as far as I know, has brought out so clearly how the overthrow of the Federal party was accompanied, andthough it sounds a paradox to say so—in a measure caused, by the triumph of Federal principles.

"When," says Mr. Higginson, "it came to political opinions, we can now see that all which Federalism had urged—a strong government, a navy, a national bank, a protective tariff, internal improvements, a liberal interpretation of the constitution—all these had become also Democratic doctrines. Were it not for their traditional reverence for Jefferson's name, it would sometimes have been hard to tell Madison and Monroe from Federalists. In a free country, when a party disappears, it is usually because the other side has absorbed its principles. So it was h re; and we never can understand the extinction of Federalism unless we bear this fact in mind" (p. 389).

The merits of Mr. Higginson's later work make one regret all the more that he should have given the go-by to a part of his subject which would have given him full field for the depths of his powers. J. A. DOYLE.

Our South African Empire. By William Greswell. In 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.) PERHAPS none of our colonies form so interesting a political study as South Africa. Besides the ordinary questions of protection, public works, &c., which belong to all young communities, South Africa has the problem of the amalgamation of the two races-Dutch and English-as well as its Native question, a very Proteus for awkward reappearance. Nor can such colonial questions now be ignored. With Imperial Federation in the air, no public man can afford to exhibit ignorance of the history and politics of the great colonies. Mr. Greswell has put before the public in these volumes a singularly lucid account of the main threads in the tangled web of South African affaire. After a brief

history of the government of the settlement at the Cape by the Dutch East India Company, and then by the early English governors, an account is given of the various European communities and native peoples. The way is thus prepared for a discussion of the administrations of later governors and of the questions of to-day—such as the Africander Bond, Native education, and confederation.

The book is dedicated to "the honoured memory of the late Sir Bartle Frere," and several chapters are devoted to an account of his régime and a vindication of his policy. Mr. Greswell maintains that the "prancing proconsul" was right, but that everywhere he was doomed to failure through the incompetency of the generals who carried out his measures and the irresolution of the ministers who held the reins at home. Thus a first disaster, due to inexperience in generalship, was allowed repeatedly to prevent the carrying through of a design, and everywhere his policy was arrested. What was this policy? To weld South Africa by confederation into "a glorious and strengthening part of the British empire" by attaining "certain strategic and commercial points of great and essential value." The possession of Damaraland and Namaqualand in the west, of Zululand and Kafirland in the east, was to secure for England at once the seaboard of South Africa and the trade-route to the interior. A limit was to be placed to the interminable native wars by the destruction of the two central systems of Kafirdom, of which Kreli and Cetywayo were respectively heads. The annexation of the Transvaul (for which act Sir Bartle Frere was not responsible) had already been arranged, and the Free State would surrender its independence as a matter of course. This far-reaching conception was not realised, and a great reputation ruined because Col. Durnford forgot to laager his waggons at Isandlwana. For although the object of the Zulu War—the destruction of Cetywayo's military systemwas obtained at Ulundi, yet the previous defeat, involving a loss of British prestige and presenting to the Boers the desired opportunity for their rising, was the immediate cause of the disasters of the Transvaal War and the subsequent irresolution of the British Government. Yet had the latter only remained firm and supported their administrator, the Transvall people would have been satisfied by a constitution, which had been already drafted by the help of eminent Dutch colonists. (How important was this element of Dutch cooperation is known only to those who are aware that even to-day the Transvaal is governed from Capetown.) Here again, as elsewhere, was an arrested policy. But a Nemesis with unrelenting exactness has forced the British Government to undertake those very measures for which Sir Bartle Frere was condemned.

"In Zululand, Basutoland, and Bechuanaland they [i.e., the late Government] have been compelled to assume those responsibilities they so violently disclaimed.... The difference between Sir Bartle Frere and his detractors is this: he annexed with a clear and definite plan before him; they have annexed hurriedly, expensively, late in the day, and in the teeth of their professions."

Two points of great importance are indicated

Africanders can have no real sympathy with Holland, still less with Germany or France. At the time of the first English occupation the people were actually in revolt against their Dutch masters, whose rule was politically tyranical and commercially monopolist: and wherever the hard work of colonisation has been done it has been done by the English. It is English enterprise and capital and blood, too, which has made South Africa; and on every ground of justice the country belongs to England. The other is that the question which has always divided the two white races, and is to-day at the bottom of the Africander Bond and Empire League antagonism, is the Native question; and that, if only an uniform, consistent, and strong policy under Imperial control were once evolved (and how this may be done some hints are given), the peace of the country

would be practically secured.

The author has arranged his account, which is of the nature of a history, under special headings, whereby a dry historical narrative is avoided and a somewhat intricate subject made more intelligible to the general reader. This involves, however, some sacrifice of brevity. Many of the chapters have appeared previously in the reviews—a fact which does not tend to condensation—and in several places almost identical phrases, and even sentences, occur. If Mr. Greswell wishes to obtain the public ear in these busy times he must learn to put his information into a more compact form. But this defect is not sufficient to mar the value of the book. The author has the rare qualification of a long residence at the Cape, which gives him the necessary colonial standpoint which colonists complain is so conspicuous by its absence in the accounts of South Africa written by the distinguished strangers who have raced through the country on a post-cart or otherwise. Mr. Greswell writes as a man who has felt the things he tells. He has himself traversed the field of the "little hand," felt "the shudder which ran through the length and breadth of South Africa, from the Tugela to Cape Point," at the news of the destruction of the 24th regiment, witnessed the sad ceremony of the shipment of the body of the Prince Imperial to the Orontes off Simonstown, and tasted of the bitter degradation of the loyal colonists after the Transvaal surrender. These volumes supply what has long been wantedan intelligible account affairs in South Africa.

W. Basil Worsfold. an intelligible account of the real state of

England's Supremacy: its Sources, Economics, and Dangers. By J. S. Jeans. (Longmans.) IF Free Trade is to repel the attacks which the modern Protectionist school is directing against it, it must find an abler champion than Mr. Jeans. We say this with some regret, because the promise of the introduc-tion was fair. We fully agree with the author that "there never probably was an epoch when well-authenticated facts bearing upon the condition-of-England question were more in demand than at present"; and, had he given us such, we should have heartily thanked him for his book. Unfortunately, in a work mainly statistical, he so blunders in throughout the book. One is that the Dutch his figures as to shake our confidence in the

correctness of any one of his "facts." careless misplacement of words makes it appear that England has the least number of industrial artisans compared with its agricultural labourers, and the highest surplus of native-grown corn after its population has been fed, of any country in the world. Clearly the opposite is meant, and had this been the worst error we should merely have blamed the want of revision of proofs. But when we are gravely informed that "in New England, where labour is highly organised, five persons produce in a year 140 yards of calico; in North Carolina, where the opposite condition of things exists, the same number of operatives only produce two and two-fifth yards," we begin to doubt whether the mind that imagines calico to be more costly in America than cloth of gold is capable of correcting his own or anyone else's mistakes. And our doubt passes into conviction when Mr. Jeans produces the following argument against what, with somewhat indecent heat, he terms the "howling of the Fair-traders." "England now imports 600 million quarters of corn per annum. Impose a tax of 5s. per quarter upon this quantity and the product would be over 175 million pounds sterling per annum
. . . equivalent to a charge of nearly £5 per head upon every man, woman, and child in the three kingdoms." Now, in the first place, 600 million quarters of corn would, at the cheapest rate, represent a sum of 900 million pounds sterling, or over twice the value of the entire imports of England, which amount to 435 million pounds. Secondly, a tax of 5s. per quarter on 600 million quarters would produce exactly 150 million, and not "over 175 million pounds sterling." Thirdly, Mr. Jeans has represented the value of the whole of our food imports as averaging "close on £5 per head" of the population (which is itself an exaggeration, the correct figures being £3 5s. 7d.), how, then, can a tax of 18 per cent. on one article of food represent an equal amount? The truth is that our yearly corn imports cost us some sixty-five million pounds, and the tax—advocated by a very insignificant section of the Fair-trade party might add ten millions to the annual revenue. Again, Mr. Jeans argues, and argues rightly,

that, if in America the cost of living has increased of late years more rapidly than the increase in wages, whereas in England an increased wage has been accompanied by a decreased cost of living, our economic system is the sounder and more successful. believe that this might be proved to be the case. All accounts show that prices have almost universally risen in America, and in some cases risen enormously. On the other hand, if rents and butchers' meat are higher in the England of to-day than they were in the England of a quarter of a century ago, all bread-stuffs, clothing, and groceries are very much cheaper; and these are the staple commodities of our artizans, whose wages, if not largely and universally, have yet steadily shown a tendency to rise. But we have not yet seen the question fully established or exactly computed; and had Mr. Jeans set aside his ambitious design of dealing with the whole range of world-statistics, and concentrated his energies upon a painful and correct elucidation of this one point, he would have done an excellent work. As it is, he merely

shakes our previous conviction. He prints a table, professing to give the relative cost of the main articles of imported food in England in 1860 and 1880 respectively, and to show that the total of the latter year exhibits a decrease of 28 per cent. on the former year. Our suspicion is attracted by the fact that potatoes are set down as being more costly than butter. We then note that every article except tea and rice appears as dearer in 1880 than it was in 1860, and making our own addition, find that, according to this table, food has increased 33 per cent. instead of decreased 28 per cent. during the twenty years. If this were true the Fair-traders might "howl" to some purpose; but happily we know that it is not true, and we therefore cordially sympathise with the author when he adds that "it would be easy to multiply figures of this kind, but it is neither necessary nor desirable."

Though such extravagant treatment of materials deserves the severest censure, we yet willingly allow that Mr. Jeans is thoroughly honest. He misleads, and mis-leads frequently, but he misleads unconsciously, not from design; and herein he compares favourably with recent writers on kindred subjects. He justly appreciates the "pernicious and ill-judged" attempts to "pernicious and ill-judged" attempts to sow anarchy and discontent" by constructing out of old account-books, aided by a heated imagination, a false view of the condition and prosperity of the fifteenth-century peasant, which so many vivid pictures in the Paston letters utterly refute. Instead of describing peasant-proprietors from Watteau's canvases, he quotes the words of those who have studied them from life:

"They are miserably poor and overwhelmed with debts." "In a bad year they are reduced to starvation. . . The weary look of the children is sad to see. . . . They are underfed and overworked." "Unless he have capital of his own, he must borrow it. When he is a systematic borrower he will cease to be a free proprietor. And when financial rings hold under mortgages the soil of England, we shall simply have established for the landlords, whom we see, and who (in England) live on their estates and usually take some pride in them, invisible money-lenders living in distant cities. What is there in all this to transform industry, reorganise our social system, and offer a millennium to the thirty-five millions of these

He repeats a question which would scarcely need asking again, were it not that some in authority deliberately choose to ignore a truth which has often been published, and which was the main fact established by the great blue-book on Land Tenures in 1870. "Is it not notorious that by virtue of superior husbandry the soil of England, not naturally the best, has been made the most prolific in the world?" It is worth noting that—whereas the wife of the French peasant proprietor remains the chief agricultural drudge, and her "sickly look" has been described as "very striking"-in England, between the years 1861 and 1881, "the number of women employed in the hard and unsexing labour of the field has fallen from 378,802 to 64,840." would also be well to enquire of those who seek, by legislative action, to replace our

hundred millions sterling, sustained, according to Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, by our agricultural interest in the past decade, had fallen on a small cultivating ownership instead of on a capitalist class? The latter, though severely shaken, has been able to pay the bill occa-sioned by a conjunction of bad seasons and low prices; the former, here as elsewhere, would, in half the time, have been face to face with starvation and the usurer. As a single-minded Free-trader, willing to face economic laws even when they are disagreeable and unpopular, Mr. Jeans cannot add his breath to those who are blowing the peasant proprietorship bubble. Our land system is the natural result of the law of supply and demand, working in a community wealth and condition is essentially the product of its manufacturing rather than of its agricultural industries. It exhibits no ten-dency to change of itself, and a change can only be produced by state interference. An organisation of industry thus unhealthily created cannot stand against economic law, unless protected by the agency to which it owes its origin; and the agricultural interest, which, as at present constituted, mildly and diffidently suggests a 5s. tax per quarter on imported corn, which will not be granted, would then clamorously demand a 10s. tax, which riotous agitation might win for it.

H. AVRAY TIPPING.

#### NEW NOVELS.

Mitre Court. By Mrs. J. H. Riddell. In 3 vols. (Bentley.)

Lord Vanecourt's Daughter. By Mabel Collins. In 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

Arnold Robur. By Martin Combe and Dun-can Lisle. In 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Miss Montizambart. By Mary A. M. Hoppus. In 2 vols. (Sampson Low.)

The New River: a Romance of the Time of Hugh Middleton. By Edward Fitzgibbon. (Ward & Downey.)

The New Democracy: a Fragment of Caucusian History. (Sampson Low.)

Miss Vanbrugh. By Pen Derwas. (Bristol: Arrowsmith.)

Mitre Court is described in a sub-title as "a tale of the Great City"; but as its author, since the days of George Geith of Fon Court, has written more tales of the Great City than most readers can remember, the description does not serve to differentiate this latest novel from its many predecessors with the same background. It is, perhaps, a little more aggressively cityish than the rest; and some readers may incline to think, not very unreasonably, that it would be all the better if the story were not so often interrupted by long drawnout passages of topography, rapturously eloquent celebrations of tumble-down houses, and shrill denunciations of the bold bad men by whom the tumble-down houses are being swept away. Enthusiastic antiquarianism is all very well in its place; but those of us who like to take our fiction neat think that its place is in Mr. Walford's interesting magazine, and not in the pages of a novel. Mrs. Riddell, however, is not without excuses, for, native land system by that of France, what if the truth must be spoken, she has very would have happened if the loss of two little story to tell; and, if it had not been for

could not possibly have been filled. Indeed, one has to get nearly to the end of the first volume before one perceives that there is any story at all. The writer has acquired the happy knack of economising scanty materials; but in the first part of Mitre Court the economy is a little too obtrusive, and the result is not happy. We see a great deal of Mrs. Jeffley, the capable but incredibly simple-minded lodging-house keeper, of Mr. Jeffley, her very meek husband, of the two lodgers, the virtuous Frank Scott and the wily Mr. Katzen, of Mrs. Childs, the charwoman, and of the mysterious Mr. Brisco and the equally mysterious Abigail Weir; but as they do nothing except talk about each other, the reader's interest in them can hardly be anything but languid. When the cunning Mr. Katzen begins to float the New Andalusian loan, which, we see from the first, is destined to bring grief to everybody concerned, the story does begin to waken up a little: but even a critic who ennot pretend to possess Mrs. Riddell's fearful and wonderful knowledge of matters financial finds it hard to subdue a lurking doubt concerning the possibility—to say nothing concerning the reasonable probability—of the record of Mr. Katzen's great coup. There is a good deal of credulity in the world; but it is difficult to believe that a man whose purse is empty and reputation shady should succeed in drawing £300,000 out of the pockets of experienced men of business on the strength of a security which has no existence, or that, having accomplished such an extremely difficult piece of scoundrelism, he should be entirely out of the reach of the law. Mrs. Riddell has not been improving of late years. Her early books were unduly sentimental and lachrymose, but they were decidedly interesting:

Mitre Court is cynical, but on the whole dull. The attempt to enliven the book by depreciating human nature at large in a manner dear to youthful misanthropists is not successful, and the kind of humour which is to be extracted from the mispronunciations and grammatical errors of uneducated persons is too cheap to be very effective. Mrs. Riddell has written some very good stories and some rather poor ones, but I cannot remember anything of hers that is, on the whole, poorer than Mitre Court.

Though Miss Mabel Collins has not Mrs. Riddell's experience, she has produced a much better novel. Lord Vanecourt's Daughter does not belong to the highest class of fiction. It gives us no illuminating studies in human nature, nor does it deal with the deep things of thought or emotion; but it is, what Mitre Court certainly is not, readable and interesting from the first page to the last. It is a story the interest of which depends entirely upon the evolution of a very well-contrived and well-managed plot; and though Miss Collins's work is of the kind which the superior person is wont to sniff at, it has, at any rate, the merit of accomplishing what it aims at, and for the judicious critic this is enough. The plot-novelists one and all regard with what I consider perfectly just resentment the wicked reviewer who discounts the interest of readers by revealing the secrets, or explanations, or catastrophes which the third volume may have in its keeping; so

antiquarianism, the orthodox three volumes I will allow nothing to leak out through me save the fact that the story deals with a murder committed by a father and witnessed by a daughter, whose reluctance to bring her criminal parent within the grasp of the law brings herself within reach of a long series of cunningly devised infernal machinations. Like Mrs. Campbell Praed and one or two other story-tellers, Miss Collins utilises the mysteries of "occultism," or "theosophy," or "esoteric Buddhism," or whatever is the proper name for the thaumaturgic religion of Mr. Sinnett, Colonel Olcott, and Madame Blavatsky; and a certain military "adept," who is the hero's good angel, does wondrous things by which the devices of villany are brought to nought. But I must be discreet, or I too shall have to take my place among the critics who read and tell; so I will say no more, except to repeat what I have already said, that Lord Vanecourt's Daughter is a capital novel, which will give full and solid satisfaction to those readers who want a story and nothing more.

> There is a great deal more than a story in Arnold Robur; so much more, in fact, that the reader is in constant danger of losing the story altogether. It cannot be said that the loss would be very serious, for where the scattered fragments of narrative are pieced together they are found to be very involved and tiresome; but probably the involution and the tiresomeness would have been less painfully aggressive had Messrs. Combe and Lisle been good enough to tell their tale straight on, without breaking away into long essays and absolutely endless conversations about everything in general and nothing in particular. Were it not that unsolicited advice is seldom acted upon or even accepted graciously, I would suggest that the new literary firm would be much strengthened if the contributor of the reflective, philosophic, sarcastic, and generally expatiatory passages could be bought out by his co-partner, who would then be left free to tell a story with no nonsense and no irrelevant sense. When I read in the ACADEMY and elsewhere severe reviews of stories in which I have been to some extent interested or amused I sometimes fear that I must be foolishly easy to please; and therefore when I find nothing in Arnold Robur that either interests or amuses me I come to the conclusion that it is a dull book. Of course this conclusion may be wholly unjust, but even the authors will admit that in the circumstances it is not wholly unreasonable; and having arrived at it, it is hardly worth while to indulge in further comments upon Arnold Robur.

In the two volumes of Miss Montizambart we have a novel which belongs to that highest kind of fiction in which our interest is awakened, not by a mere skilful arrangement of exciting incidents and situations, but by strong dramatic presentation of human character and passion. Miss Mary Hoppus is a writer with worthy artistic aims; and, as she does not overtax her powers, she succeeds in attaining them, the result being that her work leaves behind it a sense of satisfying completeness. A study of remorse so intense and prolonged as to bring its victim to the verge of actual mania is certainly somewhat

there is a lack of pleasantness in a picture of such unrelieved gloom; but no one will question the power and veracity of Miss Hoppus's portraiture. It is not often that we meet with a figure so profoundly impressive as that of poor Miss Montizambart crushed down not only by the ever-present consciousness of her hidden shame, but by the misery of knowing that her boy who calls another woman mother accepts her outgoings of affection with something that is even colder than indifference. The character of this lad, Oliver Montizambart, is a work of very delicate and finished art, for Miss Hoppus performs the difficult task of making him feel and act in such a manner as to win our belief without forfeiting our sympathy. Lucy Wildsmith, the last of the three principal personages, is equally successful; her portrait has the harmonious expressiveness of a study from life; and, indeed, nowhere in the book is there any trace of perfunctory conventional work. In the present condition of public taste I fear that Miss Montizambart will not draw crowds to the circulating libraries, but it will do something much better-it will win the admiration of all cultivated and careful

The New River is a very bright, pleasant, and stirring tale, founded on the history of the great enterprise which provided London with its first water supply. Its sub-title might appropriately have been "the virtuous and vicious apprentices," for the characters and careers of the two prentice youths who are the most prominent persons in the story are contrasted in a quite Hogarthian manner. Mr. Fitzgibbon cannot be accused of being an imitator of Dickens, but he is probably a student and admirer, for the treatment of various portions of the story reminds me forcibly of Barnaby Rudge. The book is not a pretentious one, but it may be praised unreservedly, for it has no serious faults, and is interesting throughout. I may, however, remark that the word "bother" in the mouth of a London apprentice of the early part of the seventeenth century is an unmistakable anachronism.

Only the second half of the volume entitled The New Democracy is really new. The first half was published about twelve months ago, and is now supplemented by a sequel, with the title "Shooting Niagara; or, the Last Days of Caucusia." The book as a whole is one of the numberless political satires which owe their being to the prior existence of Gulliver's Travels; but for Swift's fertility of invention or mordant humour the reader of The New Democracy will seek in vain. It is, in short, a dull affair; and in a book of this kind dulness is the one unpardonable sin.

Critics, like other people, find a relief in variety, and having just said that The New Democracy is dull, I should like to be able to declare that Miss Vanbrugh is lively. Unfortunately, variety must be sacrificed, for truth compels the statement that Miss Vanbrugh is dull also—so dull, indeed, as to be nearly unreadable. The writer certainly appeals to the public by the stale and not specially commendable device of introducing a distinguished living actress and an almost more distinguished actor under very transdepressing, and many readers may feel that | parent disguises, and his portraits are flattering enough; but even the warmest admirers of Mr. Irving and Miss Ellen Terry will consider his story a vain thing. One living person has an indubitable right to be seriously aggrieved. The wretched creature Miss De Lorme may be identified by ignorant persons with a lady who is in no sense public property; and the writer who is responsible for such identification is guilty of a grave offence against good manners.

JAMES ASHCROFT NOBLE.

#### GIFT-BOOKS.

The Archipelago on Fire. By Jules Verne. (Sampson Low.) It may be as well to say at once that this latest story of M. Jules Verne has nothing whatever to do with the volcanic eruption in the Straits of Sunda, as was erroneously announced some while ago. The scene is the Levant; the time is the Greek war of independence. The title, however, is taken not from the fire ships of Canaris, or the massacre of Scio, but from the exploits of a pirate captain. On the whole, this may be called an historical story of naval life, without any of the marvels, either scientific or psychological, in which the famous author usually delights. The only incident passing belief is the rescue of the hero's ship when already in the possession of the pirates. But though M. Jules Verne here adopts a new genre, he has not lost his power to hold the attention. The story is told with vivacity from the first page to the last. Speak-ing ignorantly, we should say that the nautical terms are true in themselves and accurately rendered. For the general faithfulness of the history and the geography we can answer. But the English translator should not have allowed M. Jules Verne to state that Byron's "corpse now rests at Westminster." As a matter of fact, the Dean of twenty years later would not even admit Thorwaldsen's statute of him into the abbey— to the gai. of Trinity College. The poet, of course, was buried in Hucknall Torkard Church in Nottinghamshire. It remains to add that the volume is abundantly illustrated, there being as many as fifty full-page plates to less than two hundred pages of letterpress.

Nature and her Servants; or, Sketches of the Animal Kingdom. By Theodore Wood. (S. P. C. K.) These accounts of the familiar animals of the world are intended as an introduction to zoology, for the use of the young. In a series of eighteen chapters Mr. Wood conducts his readers by a system of natural groups through the animal kingdom. Seals, pachy-derms, rodents, marsupials, and the like, down to crustaceans, and myriapods are lightly sketched, the chief animals of each group being figured and taken as types of the rest. Of course, this has been often done before, and we do not know that it is done better here than in a dozen other books. But technical terms, which so often frighten away the beginner, have been eschewed by Mr. Wood as much as possible; and the descriptions, if easy, are not altogether accommodated to a child's mind—which we regard as one of the surest modes of disgusting the learner. Curiosity and interest must be awakened, and there must be a sense in perusing such a book as this, if it is to do good, that some mastery over facts and language has been gained. The descriptions of the economy of fish life are lucid and satisfactory, but Mr. Wood is perhaps too explicit when he says that "the hearing of fish is very imperfect indeed." this so in the salmonidae, whose piercing sight compensates for the deficiency. Many fishes, however, such as pike, muraena, and others, have been taught to come and be fed at their master's voice. The chapters on birds are generally excellent; but something should have

been said of the phenomena of migration, which is at present the great question exercising ornithologists, and on which, it may be added, more materials for a decision are being gathered year by year. Altogether this book is highly to be commended. It seems to answer its purpose admirably, and is one more proof that the S. P. C. K. is determined not to suffer general literature to suffer at its hands. For a school library, a prize, or a village coffee-house, it would prove suggestive and valuable.

IN Mrs. Edward Kennard's Twilight Tales (Chapman & Hall) there is plenty of wholesome and varied entertainment, and the illustrations are really clever. Mrs. Kennard seems to possess a large circle of friends in the animal world, and to have been the confidente of horses and donkeys, foxes and stags, and other beasts. They view things—sport especially—from another point than that in which we see them; and boys and girls will not only get a good deal of amusement out of a change of aspect, but may also acquire a little of that sympathy with the brute creation which is often absent in young hearts. We thoroughly recommend the book as one of the pleasantest and healthiest of the season's productions.

The Lost Trail and Camp-fire and Wigwam, which belong to the "Log Cabin Series" (Cassell), are very good examples of the Red Indian class of story, in which it is evident that boys in their teens still greatly delight. They relate some of the adventures which befall Jack Carleton, a Kentuckian lad, and his friend, Otto Reelstaub, a German, who speaks delightfully broken English. There are plenty of combats with Indians and wild beasts; and, fortunately, the lads are never deserted by their good angel, a friendly Indian of the rather commonplace name of Deerfoot, who turns up whenever they are in extremis. How it comes about that so anxious and careful a mother as Mrs. Carlton allows her boy to go into the jaws of death on the alightest provocation does not very clearly appear. That is, perhaps, not the concern of Mr. Ellis, the author of the "Log Cabin Series," who cartainly takes greater pains with his Indian life, has a lighter touch, and exhibits a more genuine sense of humour than most writers in the same field.

Through the Fray. By G. A. Henty. (Blackie.) This is "a tale of the Luddite riots," and is a first-class book for boys. The hero is himself a boy, but is not so heroic as to be impossible. He is blessed with a temper like Achilles, which brings him under suspicions of having murdered a brutal stepfather; and, being thus rendered careless of his life, he defends his mother's mill with the courage of Achilles against an attack of the Luddites. He afterwards overcomes their animosity in the way in which it was historically overcome—by the immense amount of extra work able to be done, and therefore required to be done, by the very machinery which the Luddites wished to destroy. Our Achilles had his Briseis; but, unlike his Greek prototype, he marries her, conquers his temper, and they live happily ever afterwards.

Dessie Fennimore. A Tale of Country-town Children. By S. K. Hutton. (Hodder & Stoughton.) An exceedingly pretty story for the very little ones of the family—the "children" as distinguished from the "boys and girls." The language has perfect simplicity, without that aggressive childishness which all properly constituted children resent, and the incidents are just the ones to interest the nursery. The tiny readers or hearers of the book will gain additional delight from the knowledge that Dessie and Pollie were "real children," and that the author has not "made them out of her head." There are five illustrations of average merit.

A Terrible Coward. By G. Manville Fenn. (Blackie.) This book contains two stories, both good, though the second is better than the first, which gives the title. A Terrible Coward is the story of a young man who refused to take a dangerons dive, which is expected of every youth in a Cornish fishing village to show his manhood, because he does not see the good of merely doing a thing because it is dangerous. He afterwards heroically saved the life of his bitterest enemy, who had dubbed him a "terrible coward" for not taking the dive. The moral is not a bad one; but if every youth in the village took the dive, it could not be very dangerous, and the motive for refusal fails. The second story is an exciting and well-told account of the way a young fellow, son of the foreman of a coal mine, excites and overcomes the hostility of the miners in his attempts to increase their safety.

The Penang Pirate. By John C. Hutcheson. (Blackie.) This volume has also two stories. The first is an exceedingly good description of the way some Malay pirates are caught out and fought out in their attempt on a homeward-bound China merchantman. The second is a narrative of the adventures of a petty officer on board an English frigate engaged in putting down the slave trade off Madagascar. It is not well told. The introduction is long and tedious, and the adventures of a party ship-wrecked off Madagascar are, surely, impossible.

New Honours, by Cecilia Selby Lowndes (Frederick Warne), is in reality a series of photographs of child life at the seaside. As such it is 'agreeably realistic, and some of the scrapes in to which the little Despards stumble, and, which are a source of great annoyance to their nurse, are very laughable. Humour, too, is shown in the way in which Miss Lowndes makes the various members of the Despard family take to their "new honours," as their ennoblement and elevation from genteel poverty to comparative affluence is termed. The death of poor Sydney seems, however, an unnecessary bit of tragedy. This book is exceptionally well written and illustrated.

That Aggravating School-Girl, by Grace Stebbing (Nisbet), is likely to be popular among all who make her acquaintance in print, though her presence in the flesh might not be so grateful. The character sketches are good. Miss Crofton is a mistress after the modern high-school type, who wins all hearts by her tact and sympathy, and yet inspires respect by her knowledge and power. Miss Rowe is another product of modern times—highly educated, devoted to work, exacting, unsympathetic, unacceptable. How, in the school over which these two ladies presided, Miss Helen Edison conducted and misconducted herself, and how, in her at any rate, the discipline of school-life developed the better qualities of her nature is well and cleverly told. The conversations are lively and natural, and the moral obvious, but not obtrusive. The illustrations are not particularly tasteful, nor do they present Helen, who is something more than a mere tomboy, in her best aspect.

Fearless Frank. By Mary E. Gellie. (Griffith, Farran & Co.) A capital book for children. Frank's adventurous voyage to the North Pole in the Pixy, with his little sister and the half-witted boy Dod, is told with much spirit, and, if read aloud, would be listened to with breathless interest by a juvenile audience.

Two Ways of looking at it, by Austin Clare (S. P. C. K.), are the ways adopted respectively by the south-country schoolmistress and the north-country miner of viewing each other and things in general. The pair are far asunder at first, but grow nearer and nearer; and in the end, having become man and wife, they regard

things with a single eye, and set down their past differences for mutual improvement. The idea is happily conceived, and well carried out, in chapters written alternately by John Elliot and Daisy Meadows. The little book contains not only plenty of good sentiment and sense, but not a little incident and adventure.

Bound with a Chain. By Crona Temple. (S. P. C. K.) This is a tale of the black country written by a practised pen with skill and power. The tone of the book is more serious than that of most of the season's publications. We are a little surprised to find coalpits, coke-ovens, factories and windmills, grouped together in one neighbourhood, but our acquaintance with South Staffordshire is limited.

Michael's Treasures; or, Choice Silver. By Emma Marshall. (Nisbet.) This is the story of a foundling washed ashore by a storm on the east coast, and contains a good deal of stirring narrative. Marina, the waif, develops into everything that is good and delightful, and becomes Michael's best treasure. The writing is rather "goody," but in families where a Sunday story is regarded as a needful piece of literature Mrs. Marshall's story will be acceptable.

The Mill in the Valley, or, Truth will out. By C. F. M. (S. P. C. K.) A tale with a moral, and containing a truthful picture of village life as it used to be, when farmers were prosperous and labourers contented, and parsons respected. How Jesse Crump made and lost his gold, and how suspicion fell on the innocent, and how all came right at last, is told pleasantly enough. The cattle-disease is a fresh subject, and gives a little more air of reality to this story than is generally found—indeed, there is plenty of proof that the author has studied from nature.

A Little Silver Trumpet. By L. T. Meade. (Hodder & Stoughton.) The silver trumpet turns out to be no trumpet, but a street arab's penny-making capacity for whistling. The story is, however, a very good example of success in describing the dangers, the miseries, and the temptations of the life of the residuum of a great city with fidelity, without exaggeration, and with interest. The hero is a modernised Oliver Twist, and there is something of the Dickens humour and a good deal of pathos about him. Mr. Pym's illustrations are neat and effective.

Friendship's Diary. (Hodder & Stoughton.) This is a very pretty little diary, with a page for every day, surrounded by a graceful border, and headed by a well-selected quotation. At the beginning of each month is a full-page wood-engraving after Millais, Arthur Hughes, Pinwell, or some other artist. These (which of course have appeared before) are all pleasant pictures, and are fitted with appropriate verses. Altogether, it is a novel and attractive form of diary, and well suited for a present for young or old.

BELONGING to the Bad Boy's Diary order of literature, and distinctly bourgeois American in tone, is The Adventures of Jimmy Brown. (Sampson Low.) We could have been spared some allusions to Jimmy Brown's sister Sue and ther various lovers, which are a trifle vulgar; and the boy is rather too conscious that he is a humourist. Yet he plays a great variety of tricks, especially on his baby brother, which will be regarded as laughable by boys and girls who are not old enough to understand, or to be injuriously affected by, vulgarity when they come across it.

Adam Hepburn's Vow, by Anne S. Swan (Cassell), is a sort of compromise between a historical novel with a religious purpose and a gift-book, and it is easy to see how at this

season it may be utilised. Miss Swan is hardly at her best here. The story, which tells how a Covenanter of the Drumclog and Magus Moor days makes a vow to revenge the murder of his wife by Prelatists, and how he keeps that vow, runs on rather conventional lines. Scotch manse life in the old times is, however, not unskilfully sketched.

True Stories of the Reign of Queen Victoria, by Cornelius Brown (Griffith, Farran, & Co.), is in reality a succinct history of the present reign, in which ample justice is done to individuals who have played an important part in it, and to incidents of a personal character. As such it is interesting and readable, in spite of the "historian in waiting" tone which spoils some portions of it and it; may be highly recommended as a superior gift-book of the graver sort.

Bound by a Spell. By the Hon. Mrs. Greene. (Cassell.) The alternative title of this lurid-looking volume is "The Hunted Witch of the Forest." The scene is laid in a remote valley on the confines of the Canton Grisons, and the time about a century ago, when persecution for witchcraft was far from being uncommon in Central Europe. Mrs. Greene exhibits industry and a certain amount of power; but the subject she has chosen is, in our opinion, much too horrible for a book that is to be put into the hands of children. There are chapters in it which would give the little ones ugly dreams, and suggest pictures to their active imaginations which would, in some cases, be positively injurious. She has struck a wrong note this time.

Tinker Dick, by Mrs. Henry Keary (Frederick Warne), is hardly a story for children, although it is about a foundling child, whom Tinker Dick, one of those wonderful working men of "long ago," benefits by going to London and discovering a grandfather with a little money. Dick's rather improbable adventures in London are the best thing in this little book, which is, throughout, rather too didactic, and is well intentioned rather than well written.

The Pedlar and his Dog. By Miss Rowsell. (Blackie.) An interesting tale for young people. John Pennycuick and his dog Shock will be found pleasant companions. The pilgrimage to London in the time of Queen Bess is capitally described.

Little Tottie, and two other Stories. Told by Thomas Archer. (Blackie.) This book would make a good Sunday School prize. The tales are serious but interesting. Though published near Christmas time, "Little Tottie" is not about fairies and merry-making, but about the créche and the hospital.

Miss Grantley's Girls. By Thomas Archer. (Blackie.) The title is a misnomer. The girls have nothing to do but to listen to the stories Miss Grantley tells them; which are good, bad, and indifferent, the last predominating. Miss Grantley is unfortunately endowed with a heavy wit, which her schoolgirls must have found rather trying. The stories are, however, mercifully short, as there are half-a-dozen of them in 145 small octavo pages.

Our Sunday Friend. (C. Mowbray.) The year's volume of this monthly periodical is, perhaps, the thinnest book of the kind published, containing but one hundred pages. This is certainly a distinction, and, from certain points of view, a merit. We have no doubt that in course of issue it has given more amusement and edification to more young people than many a thicker and costlier magazine. Its tone and teaching are unexceptionable, and it has a number of fairly good pictures.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

LORD TENNYSON'S new volume, Teiresias and other Poems, will be published next Tuesday.

PROF. W. MINTO will write the article on "Sir Walter Scott" for the Encyclopaedia Britannica. He is also editing "The Lay of the Last Minstrel" for the Clarendon Press. We may add—what is an open secret—that he is the author of the novel "The Crack of Doom," now running in Blackwood's.

Mr. Ernest Myers has in the press a volume of poems, which will take its title from "The Judgment of Prometheus."

Messrs. Macmillan will shortly publish a volume of Studies in Ancient History, by the late J. F. McLennan, comprising a reprint of "Primitive Marriage."

THE cabinet edition of George Eliot's works will be completed before the close of this year by the issue of the third volume of her life, "with additions," and by the Essays and Leaves from a Note Book, uniform with the other volumes.

THE publication of the Life of Longfellow, by his brother, has been postponed till February. It will consist mainly of his own journals and letters. Some of the latter are adorned with little pen-and-ink drawings, which will be reproduced.

THE next volume in the series of "English Worthies" will be Shaftesbury, by Mr. H. D. Traill.

On December 21 will be published the first volume of Cassell's "National Library," edited by Prof. Henry Morley. The price of each volume will be threepence; and it is intended to issue one volume every week. The first five volumes will consist of Macaulay's Warren Hastings, Isaac Walton's Complete Angler, Henry Mackenzie's Man of Feeling, Byron's Childe Harold, and Benjamin Franklin's Autobiography. This undertaking to produce literary masterpieces, at a really cheap price and at the same time in a satisfactory form, deserves the support of all classes of the reading public.

Messrs. Longmans will publish immediately a "short story" by Mr. R. L. Stevenson, entitled Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

PROF. MEIKLEJOHN, of St. Andrews, will shortly publish with Messrs. Blackwood, a work on *The English Language*: its Grammar, History, and Literature, with special chapters on composition, versification, paraphrasing, and punctuation.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR in his preface to his new work, Gladstone's House of Commons, says:

"It has been the main endeavour of these sketches to give a perfectly accurate, life-like, intelligible account of the various scenes described. Subject to this condition, the writer has endeavoured to avoid all allusions that might be regarded as too personal. The justification of the title is the commanding position held in the last Parliament by the overwhelming personality of Mr. Gladstone." The work, which will be published by Messrs. Ward & Downey, will be ready early next week.

A NEW novel by Mr. Westall, entitled "Two Pinches of Snuff," will be commenced in Cassell's Saturday Journal of December 16. The first popular editions of this author's Red Ryvington and Old Factory (published in March and April last) being nearly exhausted, Messrs. Cassell & Company are preparing a second edition of each of these works.

Robertson of Brighton; with some Notices of his Times and Contemporaries, by the Rev. F. Arnold, will be published almost immediately, in one volume, by Messrs. Ward & Downey.

English and French Morality, by M. Yves Guyot, will shortly be issued by the Modern Press in a cheap form. M. Guyot's past work is a proof of his sincerity in attacking immor-ality, and adds weight to his criticisms of the recent agitation, which he argues must inevit-ably lead to the methods of police repression that have so signally failed on the Continent.

Mr. FISHER UNWIN will publish early next week The Life and Times of Samuel Bowles, the late editor of The Springfield Republican, Massachusetts. Mr. Bowles was born in 1826, and died in 1878. Succeeding his father in the editorial chair at the early age of eighteen, he successfully conducted his paper till just before his death, so his life covers some of the most stirring and interesting periods of American history. Among his associates and corre-spondents will be found C. Dudley Warner, Thurlow Weed, Abraham Lincoln, Charles Kingsley, Ward Beecher, Schuyler Colfax, Kate Fox, &c.

MESSRS. WARD AND DOWNEY will publish in December three new novels: Coward and In December three new novels: Coward and Coquette, by the author of "The Parish of Hilty"; That Villian, Romeo, by J. Fitzgerald Molloy; and Dulcie Carlyon, by James Grant. The same publishers are also issuing new editions of George Manville Fenn's Dark House, Mrs. O'Reilly's David Broome, and Mrs. Croker's Pretty Miss Neville.

Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench and Co. have in the press a work in two volumes by Dr. Keningale Cook, entitled, The Fathers of Jesus. Its purpose is to show, by what may be described as the parallel method, that the dogma of the exclusiveness of the Christian traditions is without sufficient basis.

Messrs. J. & R. Maxwell are about to issue a story entitled A Bitter Christmas: the Mystery of a Moated Grange, by Bertram Gray.

MESSRS. WILSON AND McCORMICK, of Glasgow, have in the press a new work by the author of "The North Wall," entitled Bruce; a Drama, in which the characters are portrayed in the first instance as men and women, and only in a subordinate degree as historic figures.

Spunyarn and Spindrift: a Sailor Boy's Log of a Voyage out and Home in a China Tea-Clipper, by Robert Brown, will be published early in December by Messrs. Houlston & Sons. It is dedicated to Lord Charles Beresford, and will be profusely illustrated by Mr. Robt. T.

THE sale of Mr. Ellis's books, which was concluded last Saturday, realised a total of about ±16,000 for 3,201 lots. The fine copy of the first folio of Shakspere, bound by Roger Payne, fetched £405; an inferior and incomplete copy, £90; Tyndale's New Testament, perhaps the most perfect copy known, £116; the editio princeps of Pliny's Natural History, printed at Venice in 1469 by Joannes di Spira, £95; Turner's England and Wales, £87; a MS. Horae of the fifteenth century, with the monogram of Diane de Poictiers, £81.

THE first annual meeting of the American Copyright League was held at the Authors' Club, New York, on November 7, when the bill that Senator Hawley proposes to introduce into Congress was approved. The president of into Congress was approved. The president of the league is Mr. Lowell; and the council in-cludes the names of E. C. Stedman, Charles Dudley Warner, S. L. Clemens, Brander Matthews, E. P. Roe, and Prof. Youmans. The subscriptions in hand amount to a total of 1732 dols. (£346).

THE resignation by Dr. Porter of the presidency of Yale College has led to an acrimonious discussion in the New York press as to the sectarian character of the college. The original

charter of 1701 vests the government in a board of Congregational ministers; but the graduates have long been demanding a share in the administration, and they point to the increasing prosperity of Harvard, where the religious bond is less strict.

MESSRS, TICKNOR, of Boston, announce a new edition of Mr. Howells's poems, including several never before published. It is specially stated that the volume will be printed on "imported" hand-made paper.

OUR note last week about Mr. Ferdinand Wolff's lectures at Oxford was not quite accurate. The paper with which he was connected was the Neue Rheinische Zeitung, the Rheinische Zeitung proper having been suppressed by the Prussian Government in 1843. The staff of the paper included Marx, Engels, and Freiligrath, but not Lassalle, though the latter used often to come to the office.

#### ORIGINAL VERSE.

THE NEWER GOSPEL.

Haeckelius loquitur :

"The ages have passed and come with the beat of a measureless tread,
And piled up their palace-dome on the dust of the

ageless dead,

Since the atom of life first glowed in the breast of eternal time,

And shaped for itself its abode in the womb of the shapeless slime; And the years matured its form with slow, un-

wearying toil,

Moulded by sun and storm, and rich with the centuries' spoil, Till the face of the earth was fair, and life grew

up into mind, And breathed its earliest prayer to its god in the

dawn or wind,
And called itself by the name of man, the master

Who conquers the strength of flame and tempers the spear and sword; For the world grows wiser by war, and death is

the law of life; The lowermost rock in the scar is red with the stains of strife.

Burst thro' the bounds of sight, and measure the least of things, Plummet the infinite and make to thy fancy

wings; From crystal, and coral, and weed, up to man in his noblest race, The weaker shall fail in his need, and the stronger shall hold his race!"

shall hold his place! Renanus loquitur :

Ah! leave me yet a little while, to watch

The golden glory of the dying day,
Till all the purple mountains gleam and catch
The last faint light that slowly steals away.

Too soon the night is on us; aye, too soon
We know the cloud is born of blinding mist:
The throne, whereon the gods sate crowned at noon With ruby rays and liquid amethyst,

Is but a vapour, dim and grey, a streak Of hollow rain that freezes in its fall; dull, cold, shape that settles on the peak, Icy and stifling as a dead man's pall.

The world's old faith is fairest in its death. For death is fairer oftentimes than life; No vulgar passion quivers in the breath: The dead forget their weariness and strife.

Say not that death is even as decay, A hideous charnel choked with rotting dust; The cold white lips are beautiful as spray Cast on an iceberg by the northern gust.

The memories of the past are diadem'd About the brow and folded on the eyes; The weary lids beneath are bent and gemm'd With charméd dreams and mystic reveries.

Once more she sits in her imperial chair, And kings and Caesars kneel before her feet, And clouds of incense fill the heavy air, And shouts of homage echo thro' the street. Or yet, again, she stretches forth the hand, And men are done to death at her desire; The smoke of burning cities dims the land, And limbs are torn or shrivelled in the fire.

Once more the scene is shifted, and the gleam Of eastern suns about her brow is curled; Once more she roams a maiden by the stream. Despised of men, the Magdalen of the world.

So scene on scene floats lightly, as a haze
That comes and goes with sudden gust and lull: Limned with the sunset hues of other days, They are but dreams; yet dreams are beautiful." A. H. S.

#### OBITUARY.

MRS. GILCHRIST.

On Sunday last there died at Hampstead, Mrs. Anne Gilchrist, a lady well known to a small literary circle, both in England and in America. Mrs. Gilchrist, whose maiden name was Burrows, was born April 25, 1828. 1851 she married Alexander Gilchrist, author of the Lives of Etty and William Blake. Her literary studies, fostered by daily com-panionship with her husband and not allowed to be thrust aside by domestic duties, first bore fruit in an article on "Our Nearest Relation," published in All the Year Round in May, 1859, which article attracted the attention of Dickens, who showed it to the Carlyles. She continued, now and again, to contribute articles on scientific and other subjects to magazines, among others one on "The Indestructibility of Force," published in Macmillan's Magazine,
March, 1861. Her husband died in 1861,
leaving his second and chief work, The Life of
William Blake, unfinished. In spite of new
parental responsibilities thus cast on her, she set to work with characteristic resolution to finish the biography—a by no means small undertaking. Indeed, the editing of this, as well as the second edition, for which she wrote a memoir of her husband, was a heavy and responsible task. Carlyle, in acknowledging a copy of the second edition, wrote: "Your own little Preface is all that is proper. Could but the Queen of these realms have been as queen-like in her widowhood!" Mrs. Gilchrist was like in her widowhood!" Mrs. Gilchrist was early attracted to the writings of Walt Whitman, and, in 1869, published "A Woman's Estimate of Walt Whitman" in The Radical, a now defunct American journal. She stayed with her children in America from 1876 to 1879, enjoying the close friendship of her favourite poet, as well as the intimacy of other wellhown American writers. It was during this sojourn that she wrote "Glimpses of a New England Village," a bright bit of description that appeared in Blackwood's Magazine last year. In 1883 she published the work by which she will be long remembered by discerning readers, her thoughtful and sympethetic ing readers—her thoughtful and sympathetic Life of Mary Lamb. Her last and, in some respects, most thoughtful essay, "A Confession of Faith," appeared only a few months ago in a London magazine. She was engaged when her last illness mastered her strength on some personal reminiscences of Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle, whose neighbour and intimate friend she was during some years of their residence in their last Chelsea home. Mrs. Gilchrist had for some years had grave apprehensions that her life was doomed, but showed her characteristic bravery in maintaining an exceptional brightness of spirit and manner, hiding the baneful secret even from her own children. To those who had the privilege of knowing her well, these fated last years will always seem a marvel of quiet heroism, and of noble resolution to be energetically active under the most depressing conditions. Her gifts and attractions in the chosen society that she loved were many and She combined in an unusual degree the qualities of mature wisdom, fine literary tact,

and a perfect womanly sweetness of temper. It was a treat, which the more crowded haunts of the literary world can hardly afford, to hear her discourse of men and books, of both of which her knowledge was wide and accurate, and her estimates at once sympathetic and dis-cerning. She leaves children who will cherish her memory as one who united to all her intellectual gifts the tenderness and wise solicitude of a perfect mother.

#### M. PAUL BOURGET.

At the annual public meeting of the Académie française, on November 26, M. Camille Doucet, the permanent secretary, awarded the Prix Vitet to M. Paul Bourget, with the following words:

"Fondé "dans l'intérêt des lettres," le prix Vitet est l'un de ceux dont l'Académie dispose à la fois avec le plus d'indépendance et le plus de responsaavec le plus d'indépendance et le plus de responsa-bilité, n'ayant aucun programme qui l'entrave et, par cela même, tenant d'autant plus à bien faire. Ce n'est pas à tel ou tel livre, comme dans presque tous les autres concours, c'est à tel ou tel écrivain, à l'ensemble de ses travaux, à sa seule renommée peut-être, que s'adresse cette récompense privi-légiée.

"M. Paul Bourget ne m'en voudra pas si, en le placant, tout d'abord parmi les brillants écrivains

plaçant tout d'abord parmi les brillants écrivains de la génération nouvelle, pour qui s'est le plus passionnée l'opinion publique, j'ajoute que, de leur côté, sans méconnaître son mérite, d'excellents juges se sont montrés pour lui plus sévères, croyant se montrer plus justes. "Cruelle énigme!" a dit le jeune philosophe dans le dernier, dans le plus le jeune philosophe dans le dernier, dans le plus fêté, dans le plus critiqué de ses ouvrages. Poète et romancier, qu'il écrive en vers ou en prose, ce petit-fils de Balzac et de Spinoza, ce petit-cousin de Manfred et de Werther est, par-dessus tout, un penseur, un rêveur et presque un savant, qui semble ne rien ignorer des grands secrets de l'âme humaine. Pour lui, le drame est dans les idées et non dans les événements: aussi fait-il des études de mœurs plutôt que des romans d'action, sou-tenant volontiers des thèses et, au besoin, des paradoxes. Elégant, imagé, recherché même, son style se passerait aisement des artifices de langage auxquels il a trop souvent recours. Vains ornements qui le surchargent et qui risquent cunements qui le surchargent et qui risquent de lui faire perdre en correction ce qu'il croit y gagner en éclat. Ce jeu plaît à M. Bourget et je dois reconnaître que parfois le succès lui donne raison. J'en sais qui estiment plus certains de ses défauts que certaines de ses qualités. Ses qualités scules, messieurs, ont fixé l'attention de l'Académie. Parmi ceux qui commencent bien, M. Paul Bourget est peut-être celui qui commence le mieux. Cela suffit. Voulant lui donner un témoignage de sympathie, d'estime et d'encouragement, l'Académie décerne à M. Paul Bourget une médaille d'or de cinq mille france sur la somme que notre illustre cinq mille francs sur la somme que notre illustre confrère M. Vitet nous a léguée pour être em-ployée librement, et le mieux possible, dans l'in-térêt des lettres. C'est ce que l'Académie vient de

#### SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

#### GENERAL LITERATURE AND ART.

GENERAL LITERATURE AND ART.

DIETZ, M. Geschichte d. musikalischem Dramas in Frankreich während der Revolution bis zum Directorium (1787-95) in künstlerischer, sittlicher u. politischer Beziehung. Wien: Groscher. 7 M. EDERS, G. Cleerone durch das alte u. neue Acgypten. Ein Lese- u. Handbuch f. Freunde d. Nillandes. Stuttgart: Deutsche Verlags-Anstatt. 12 M. FLAURERT, G. Par les champs et par les grèves. Paris: Charpentier. 3 fr. 50 c. FRIEDLARNDER, J. Repertorium zur antiken Numismatik. Hrsg. v. R. Weil. Berlin: Reimer. 10 M. HABERLANDT, M. Indische Legenden. Leipzig: Liebeskind. 2 M. Liebeskind. 2 M. Liebeskind. 2 M. Ladarder. 4. Bd. 1879-85. Berlin: Besser. 11 M. LAGARDE, P. de. Gedichte. Göttingen: Dieterich. 1 M. 20 Pf.
POESTION, J. C. Lappländische Märchen, Volksasagen, Räthsel u. Sprichwörter. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 6 M.

SCHUMANN, R. Jugendbriefe. Nach den Originalen mitgetheilt v. C. Schumann. Leipzig: Breitkopf. 6 M.

6 M.
 Stroehlin, E. Athanase Coquerel fils: étude biographique. Paris: Fischbacher. 7 fr. 50 c.
 Thode, H. Franz v. Assisi u. die Anfänge der Kunst der Renaissance in Italien. Berlin: Grote. 16 M.

VAN BASTELAER, D. A. Les Grès Wallons: Grès cérames ornés de l'ancienne Belgique ou des Pays-Bas, improprement nommés Grès fiamands. Brussels: Van Trigt. 20 fr.
VITZTHUM V. EGESTÄDT, K. F. Graf. Berliu u. Wien in den Jahren 1845-52. Politische Privatbriefe. Stuttgart: Cotta. 5 M.
VOGEL, J. Scenen Euripideischer Tragödien in griechischen Vasengemälden. Leipzig: Vett. 4 M.
WINCKLER. A. Leopold v. Ranke. Lichtstrahlen aus seinem Werken. Gesammelt u. mit e. Lebensabriss hrsg. Berlin: Prager. 3 M.

#### HISTORY, ETC.

HISTORY, ETC.

BABRAU, A. Les Artisans et les domestiques d'autrefois. Paris : Firmin-Didot. 6 fr.

BAILLON, Comte de. Henriette-Anne d'Angleterre,
Duchesse d'Orféans, sa vie et sa correspondance
avec son frère Charles II. Paris : Didier. 7 fr. 50 c.

BAUCH. A. Die Markgrafen Johann I. u. Otto III. v.
Brandenburg in ihren Beziehungen zum Reich.
1220-67. Breslau : Trewendt. 4 M.

DURAND, La Générale. Mémoires sur Napoléon et
Marie-Louise, 1810-14. Paris : Calmann Lévy.
3 fr. 50 c.

Drandenburg in meen bestehungen van Nesch.

1920-67. Breslau: Trewendt, 4 M.

Duband, La Genérale. Mémoires sur Napoléon et Marie-Louise, 1810-14. Paris: Calmann Lévy.

3 fr. 50 c.

Harmann, O. E. Der Ordo judiciorum u. die Judicia extraordinaria der Römer. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck. 10 M.

Kubeth, O. Landulf der Aeltere v. Malland. Ein Beitrag zur Kritik italiän. Geschichtsschreiber. Halle: Niemeyer. 1 M. 20 Pf.

Louis XI, Lettres de, 1461-55, publiés par Joseph Vaesen. Paris: Laurens. 9 fr.

Publicationen aus den k. preussischen Staatsarchiven.

28. Bd. Briefwechsel der Herzogin Sophie v. Hannover m. ihrem Bruder, dem Kurfürsten Karl Ludwig v. der Pfalz, u. d. Letzteren m. seiner Schwägerin, der Pfalzgräfin Anna. Hrsg. v. E.

Bodemann. Leipzig: Hirzel. 12 M.

SCHMIDT, Ch. Précis de l'histoire de l'église d'occident pendant le moyen age. Paris: Fischbacher. 12 fr.

STEIN. A. Deutsche Geschichts- u. Lebensbilder. XII. Der grosse Kurfürst. 1. Tl. Halle: Waisenhaus. 3 M. 30 Pf.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

#### PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

BAILLON, H. Histoire des Plantes. T. 8. Paris:

DAILLON, H. Histoire des Plantes. T. 8. Paris:
Hachette. 25 fr.
BRUDER, G. Die Fauna der Jura-Ablagerung v. Hohnstein in Sachsen. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 5 M.
FUUHS, M. Die geographische Verbreitung d. Kaffebaumes. Eine pflanzengeographische Studie.
Leipzig: Veit. 1 M. 80 Pf.
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Voss. 2 M.
LOTZE, H. Kleine Schriften. 1. Bd. Leipzig: Hirzel.
6 M.
RUBHLMANN D. Handburk.

6 M.
RUEHLMANN, R. Handbuch der mechanischen Wärmetheorie. 2. Bd. 3. Lig. Braunschweig: Vieweg.

theorie. 2. Bd. 3. ldg. Brautschweig: Vieweg.
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Geologie. Prag: Dominicus. 4 M.
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Hoffmann & Campe. 10 M.
STAFF, O. Besträge zur Flora v. Lycien. Carlen u.
Mesopotamien. Plantae collectae a F. Luschan
ann. 1891-33. 1. Thl. Wien: Gerold's Sohn.
2 M. 50 Pf.
TANGL, F. Studien über das Endosperm einiger
Gramineen. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 1 M. 50 Pf.
VOLKRIT, J. Erfahrung u. Denken. Kritische Grundlegg. der Erkenntnistheorie. Hamburg: Voss.
13 M. PHILOLOGY.

BARTHOLOMAR, Ch. Arische Forschungen. 2. Hft. Halle: Niemeyer. 7 M.
BARZILAI, G. Ideografia semitica e trasformazione della radice Ebraica nelle lingue indo-europee. Milan: Hoepli. 15 L.
CURTZE, M. Verba filiorum Moysi, filii Sekir, id est Maumeti, Hameti et Hasen. Der liber trium fratrum de geometris. Nach der Lesart d. Oodex Basileensis F. II. 33 mit Einleitung u. Commentar hrsg. Leipzig: Engelmann. 3 fr. 50 c.
KLUGE, F. Nominale Stammbildungslehre der altregermanischen Dialecte. Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M. 60 Pf.
KOBENER, A. A. De epistulis a Cicerone poet reditum usque ad finem anni a. v. c. 400 datis quaestiones chronologicae. Leipzig: Fock. 1 M.
MAHN, A. Grammatik u. Wörterbuch der altprovenzalischen Sprache. 1. Abth. Lautlehre u. Wortbildungslehre. Köthen: Schettler. 6 M.
MUSSAFIA, A. Mitheilungen aus romanischen Handschriften. II. Zur Katharinenlegende. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 1 M.
SCHOENNERER, G. Jorge de Montemayor, sein Leben u. sein Schäterroman, die "Siete libros de la Diana." Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M. 40 Pf.
ULRICH, J. Altitalienisches Lesebuch. 13. Jahrh. Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M. 80 Pf.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### "WITH THE KING AT OXFORD."

University College, London : Dec. 2, 1885.

On two important points your reviewer is, I think, wrong. It was not an universal practice to begin the year with March 25. In private documents the present style was often used, oftener, perhaps, than the other. Here is an extract from Mr. Robinson's Merchant Taylors' School Register (i., p. 46). Eleven names

occur in this order. The names are insignificant, and I omit them. September 1600, October 1600, January 1601, January 1601, Junuary 1601, January 1602, February 1602, March 1602, March 1602. Here it is abundantly clear that the present style is used. Anyone who will examine this volume closely will find many other instances.

As to the matter of Archbishop Laud, here is an extract from Neal's *History of the Puritans*, a book which, of course, I had before me when

"Several clergymen of other dioceses were also silenced and deprived on the same account, as Mr. Thomas Wilson of Otham, who, being sent for to Lambeth, and asked whether he had read the Book of Sports in his church, answered 'No'; whereupon the archbishop replied immediately, I suspend you for ever from your office and benefice till you read it'" (Neal's History of the Puritans, ii. 242, addition, 1795) edition 1795).

Doubtless the archbishop could not actually suspend the offending clergyman; but he threatens it, surely a very common figure of ALFRED CHURCH. speech.

#### ON THE TEXT OF THE SENCHAS MÁR.

London: Nov. 22, 1885,

Though I felt morally certain that Dr. Norman Moore and Dr. Kuno Meyer (ACADEMY, October 3 and 24, 1885) were right, still, as the apostolic precept, "prove all things," is peculiarly appropriate to Celtic matters, I recently spent several hours in the British Museum, collecting part of the first values of the American lating part of the first volume of the Ancient Laws of Ireland with the MS. (Harl. 432) from which that text purports to be taken. I find that the severe judgments passed on that text by Drs. Moore and Meyer were almost over-lenient. I proceed to substantiate this assertion, premising that I had only time to examine the first eighty pages of Old-Irish text and Middle-Irish commentary, and the fragments of text contained in the remaining 224 pages of the printed book.

The editor (p. xxxix.) states that in the original MS. there is "a difference marked by the size of the letters between what is text and what is commentary." This is true. The text is written in a semi-uncial hand, and the comis written in a semi-uncial hand, and the commentary (except the first four words) in pointed minuscules. But when the editor goes on to say of the printed book that "this distinction has been marked, both in the Irish and in the translation, by distinct type," he says the thing which is not. The whole of pp. 4, 6, and 16, eight and a half lines of pp. 2, twelve lines of pp. 8, seventeen lines of pp. 14, and three lines of pp. 18, which are printed in large type (i.e., as representing the original Old-Irish text) are in the MS. (ff. 1a, 1b, 2a), written in the small hand which the scribe employs only for commentary and glosses. Conversely, on pp. 12, lines mentary and glosses. Conversely, on p. 12, lines 27-31 are printed in small type as if they were part of the commentary. They are in the MS. (fo. 1, b, 2) written in the large hand, and are part of the ancient text. Such a strange misstatement as that above quoted throws doubt on the editor's assertions (p. xxxix.) that Dr. O'Donovan revised his transcript with the original, and that "the entire of the proofs" were read and compared with that revised transcript.

I shall first mention some of the sins of omis-

sion which I noticed, and then set down a few specimens of the errors committed in the printed

P. 2, ll. 2, 6. The omissions of *i* before samrad and of *a* (rather *u*) before tesaidecht have already been noticed by Dr. Moore.
P. 6, l. 10: *i* is omitted before crosfigill; l. 21:

after is the words ann no is are omitted.

P. 28, 1. 8 (fol. 2, a. 2). Here a whole sentence is omitted: Ise dano rotomais inafuil ctalmain

scelugud

4, a. 1, nomesemnaiged

aimsera

na

4, a. 2, isinbith

cach cétni

dligthechaso

doroaitniged

tuislech

on filid

.i. beires

i. adbar

momamugud

Di cetharslicht

enech .i. ineiric

ingell recin

o:us a cumal

no agae

la Mug Fergus

ferda

5 a. imaille

5 b. fo loch

dib

4, b. 2, aran-ecmai

dó

atbeir

10, b. 1, ciataragba[d]

11, b. 2, toirrched 12, a. 1, mairbe (gen. sg.

iarna fis

mimaisc

screpall

cin oeus gnim.

ai ocus eiraic

araindhi

dliged

12, b. 2, comrorguin

14, b. 1, athgabail 14, b. 2, di marbchich 14, b. 2, ite 15, b. 1, ithi

15, b. 2, buadtair 17, a. 2, inna mna

17, b. 1, Arindi

uili uili

Rudraidi

ros-cuiris

Con[n]achtaib

mná ina forcur

cumsanad . .

ecndach

lanamnussa, lanamnusa

cohesca (It is He, then, that measured what there

the gloss i. comed dligid gachduine insin (a keeping of every human being's law is that).

P. 40, 1. 17 (fol. 3, b. 2). After forosna the

word imbas is omitted. P. 46 (fol. 3, b. 2). A marginal note begin-

ning with frecra (answer) is omitted.
P. 70, 1. 18. After atuaid the words o Fergus

are omitted.

P. 168, l. 1 (fol. 11, a. 1). After mialtar the words iarrad frisa-roaltar (demand in case there has been over-fosterage) are omitted in the text, though they are translated in p. 169. They must, therefore, have been in O'Donovan's transcript, and their omission is doubtless due to the editors. So in p. 168, l. 4, the word airba is omitted before ria, though translated in p. 169. Conversely, letters and even words are inserted without any indication that they are not in the MS.; and, on p. 80, lines 2 and 5, one gloss is printed twice over.

The editors, not the transcriber, are, I have

little doubt, answerable for many, if not all, of the following sins of commission. scholar will see at once that most of these errors make the text unintelligible or misleading or

grossly inaccurate.

e

d

g i,

f

n

11

bt

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ht

11:

Edition, Page and Line. CODEX, FOLIO AND COLUMN. 2, 2, glainni 3, sin 1, a. 1, glaini siu 6, conad chonnud 9. a 4, 14, righfiled righfili (nom. 8g.) 18, Lugaire Laegairi sg.) 23, do cualaidh 6, 10, talumchumhstalumchumgadh 1, dorchetu sgugud dorchaidetu 12, tarmsoilise tarinsoillee ithfirn 13, ithfrin 19, rigfilid 1, a. 2. rigfiled ag.) 25, ini 1, fo 4, cacha 25, Nimtha 8, tabuir 12, i f6 cach imthe 1, b. 1, tabair 21 naesanai naesa nai 25, cach mac ina 7, nert na nad cach ina 1, b. 2, nert nad 13, saigit 22, domruidireir saigid domruid i reir 15, note, im 2, a. 1, immurgu inis filed (gen. pl.) 6, innis

13, dos airfen 24, filedh 7, fercerta 15, filedha 9, airie 28, 16, uxx 32, na tren brat gcm-

11, filid

naide (sic !) 8, ainimnigther 30, 15, in-Aibril, i Tauir

27, tre n-ailce insein fris a n-astaiter

32, 14, cerchai 34, 11, i tir 36, 25, i te . . . uais 26, isin ris i raiter

38, 3, cluinsin 40, 26, follamnughadh 9, dobiathach 35, fursannadand 37, uirdned

44, 3, focetair
9, co[cend] nomaide
do dala 19, aisti cach aircedail

20, cclughadh (!) 3, ocus catha 48, 25, no mesemnaighther 48, 29, 30, lanamna

9, aimsira 8, cach ni 16, no 21, as in bith note 2, dligthchaso 1, do ro aitiniged 8. tuisledach 14, on filed 18, beires

19, agae 21, adb 24, moamughadh 1, Do cetir slict 2, a Mug 30, Frigus 32, enec n-éiric 20, firda

8, i maille 21, i ngellre cin 24, ocus beir a cumal 10, 12, do 3, for loch 4, de

6, uile 11, Rudraidh 23, ro cuiris 78, 17, ar a necmai 22, Conachtaib do

24, atbair 116, 14, na doige 7, b. 1, nad-oige 144, 32, Ha huile nei chi 10, a. 1, Na huile nei chi (for nithi)

152, 2, Ciata ra gba 162, 26, mna ina forcar 174, 29, cumsana ecnadach 1, toirched 8, mairb

(gen.

(gen.

fili (nom. sg.)

filid (nom. pl.)

3000) trenbrat

geimhnidhe ainmnighth*er* 

imis aibril bis

ite . . . Uair isní risi-raiter

follomnugud

fursannand

no dala

ocus aisti

nomaide

cach

fer certa

ina

3, b. 1, trenailce insein fris[an]astai-ther bretha

cluinsiu

uirned

focetoir

3, a. 1, certchai

3, a. 2, ite .

itir

3, b. 2, sobiathach

2, a. 2, aire 2, b. 1, xxx

9, iar fis 11, mimairc 202, 1, comorguin 212, 16, screrall 214, 25, achgabail

226, 33, dia marb chich 228, 18, Itite 238, 13, ithe 240, 28, buacdtair 250, 27, ina mna 254, 8, tisad 256, 19, Ar mdi

258, 10, cin ocus gnimai ocus eiraic\* 258, 11, 18, 23, 25, ara ind hi 19, dligid

29, cethramthu 262, 11, fuil cuicti 264, 8, 9, [n]i faelais 268, 2, cuing

18, a. 1, cethraimthiu 18, b. 1, fuil for .u. 19, a. 1, ni foelais 20, a, 2, cuinge This list might be lengthened almost ad

infinitum if one added the cases in which (a) words have been bisected or trisected; (b) marks of length and aspiration have been wrongly in-serted or omitted; and (c) compendia have been wrongly extended. For instance, prepositions compounded with the article or relative, such as cusin, isin, isna, frisin, frisa, are written cus in, is in, is na, fris in, fris a, though the s belongs to the article or pronoun; diaraile, the compound of do and araile, is always dia raile; nouns and adjectives, such as airdri, othigerna, uasalaithre, firchruind, are printed aird ri, oc thigerna, uasal aithre, fir cruind; the common word bruinni is trisected and printed bruin ni (p. 144, l. 30); and compound nouns, such as fornadmand, and verbs, such as fornited bruin air contains and the such as fornited for the such as for forteit, adubairt, are printed for nadmand, for teit, a dubairt. Conversely words clearly and

• The note on this is characteristic. "Four things.—Only three enumerated, the fourth is omitted both here and in O'D. 117."

rightly separated in the codex, such as naesa nai, gnim, ai, Ferta Feig, and con lomnai, are printed together (naesanai, gnimai, Fertafeig, conlomnai). The common compendia for ni anse, and didiu, are always, and that for dano, is often, wrongly extended. The numerous verbal nouns wrongly extended. The numerous verbal nouns ending in -gud (stems in dtu) are invariably made to end in -ghadh, as if they were stems in dtu; and deponential s- preterites in -tar are printed as if they ended in -tair. It is hardly necessary to add that obvious scribal errors, such as remthestus, pp. 26, 10, are allowed to stand without notice

stand without notice.

Of the guesswork called a translation I will mention only a few instances from the first fifty Thus deismerecht (an example), p. 4, is rendered by "it was in commemoration"; the same word, p. 16, by "proof"; creidmi fiadut (of belief in God), p. 8, is rendered by "religion, they relate"; dociallathar firindi, forteit anenac (which forgets truth, which helps the uninnocent), p. 8, is actually rendered by "Truth is balanced by which they go into purity"; apthain (perdition, acc. sg.), p. 10, twice by "absolution" (!); ailiu (I beseech), p. 10, by "Hear me"; demnigur (I prove), p. 10, by "it shall be proved"; fosisiur, fofetar fis deoda (I confess I somewhat know divine knowledge), p. 10, by "Divine knowledge, it is known decides," ireir m'eicsi (according to my science), p. 12, by "as a poet"; doruigled nem dia hanmain (heaven was adjudged to his soul), p. 12, by "his soul was pardoned and sent to heaven"; rendered by "it was in commemoration by "his soul was pardoned and sent to heaven"; berla ban bias (the white language which will live), p. 16, by "the bright word of blessing"; live), p. 16, by "the bright word of blessing"; cuibsena cresion (confessions of Christians) by "consciences of the believers"; imacallaim (dialogue), p. 18, by "contention"; dluma (masses), p. 26, by "vapour"; nem n-etherda (ethereal heaven), p. 28, by "the nether-heaven"; ina trenbrat geimhnidhe (as a mighty mantle of hide) by "a mighty sheet of crystal"; ite trenailee insein frisanastaither bretha in bethu (those pre the mighty rocks to which the world's are the mighty rocks to which the world's judgments are fastened), p. 30, by "these are the three rocks by which the judgments of the the three rocks by which the judgments of the world are supported"; tacmainges (which encompasses), p. 32,\* by "overtops"; recht petairlaicthi (law of the Old Testament, veteris legis), p. 38, by "patriarchallaw"; tainic (came), p. 40, by "was established"; imbi bailethach bith (at which the world is worthless), p. 50, by "at which the world dies"(!).

It is hard to refrain from indignant language when one reflects that the money spent in pub-

when one reflects that the money spent in pubwhen one renects that the money spent in pub-lishing this mass of misleading gibberish and guesswork would, in the hauds of men with a high standard of excellence, some notion of the requirements of modern scholarship, and some acquaintance with Gaelic and palaeography, have sufficed to make almost all that is worth reading in the vest and envises Middle Usish reading in the vast and curious Middle-Irish literature accessible in a trustworthy form to British and continental students.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the distinguished scholars who have supported, or imtanguished scholars who have supported, or improved upon, my proposals in the ACADEMY for September 26, 1885, and to offer some remarks on their letters. I am particularly glad that Mr. O'Grady and Prof. Windisch agree in thinking that the Roman type should be used in printing the Brehon laws, italies being remarks of the statement of the state served for extensions of contractions. A font of Irish type does not possess anything corresponding with italics; it is much more costly to print in Irish than in Roman; as the Irish s, , and r resemble each other, compositors ignorant of the Irish language are very apt to confound these characters; and, lastly, the use of Irish type practically prevents the

<sup>\*</sup> In the same page the corrupt Latin casuss (i.e., cassis) is represented in the translation by "casus": so in p. 36 the corrupt "caistigatur" (castigator, Irish timairgthia) is represented by "castigatur."

kindred Gael of Scotland and Canada from buying and reading Irish publications. The sentiment which led the editors of the ancient Irish laws to adopt the so-called Irish type\* is exactly of the same nature as that which (according to a story current in my boyhood) induced the Natural History Committee of the Royal Dublin Society to resolve that their skeleton of Megaceros Hibernicus should be painted green, as the Irish elk was a national animal.

elk was a national animal.

The undue length of the introductions to which Mr. O'Grady refers is easily accounted for, if it be true, as the late Dr. Todd informed me, that the editors were paid by the government at the rate of £8 per sheet. Hence, no doubt, the extracts from the translations rabblished in the consequence. the translations published in the same volume, from popular "Summaries" and "Elements" of Roman Civil Law, from "the Laws of Menu" as to "acharitan" (the learned editors mean Manu and ācharita), from Lord Derby's translation of Homer, and Mr. Crowe's translation of "the Demoniac Chariot of Cúchulainn," from the Fortnightly Review and the lainn," from the Fortnightly Review and the Revue des Deux Mondes. Hence, too, the essay to prove that St. Patrick was born in the vicinity of Glastonbury and Bristol; the two and a-quarter pages of extracts from the English translation of Æthelbirht's laws; the note (nearly four pages long) copied from O'Curry's Manuscript Materials; the dissertations on common recoveries; the statute De Donis, and manuum consertio; the wonderful passage and manuum consertio; the wonderful passage (iv., xxxiv.) about cund or conn, which the editor says is "simply a form of the word [cenn] meaning 'head'"; the theory of Dr. W. K. Sullivan (iv., lvii.); the extracts (iv., lxxviii.) from the Cyoreithian (!) Cymru and the Leges Wise gothornm (sic, iv., clii.). Hence, lastly, the "synopsis of introduction" (iv. pp. ccxxi.-ccxxxiv.).

cexxxiv.).
As to Prof. Rhys's letter (ACADEMY, October 31, 1885), I should have been glad if, instead of suggesting that I should connect myself with an undertaking ill conceived and worse managed, he had given some more of the many textual corrigenda which are doubtless to be found in the Brehon tracts printed in the Ancient Laws, vol. ii., pp. 410-420, from Rawl. B. 506, and in vol. iv., pp. 68-158, from Rawl. B. 487. These tracts, together with some others in the Bodleian, and one which I found last August in the Phillipps Library at Cheltenham, I hope, when I have finished my work on the Indian Codes, to induce the delegates of the Clarendon Press to let me edit in the "Anecdota Oxoni-

Prof. Windisch, because he has collated one of the lithographic so-called facsimiles published in the Ancient Laws, with the corresponding pages of the printed text (vol. iii. pp. 278-286), and apparently found them to agree, thinks that the result of the proposed revision will perhaps be that the first edition was "not so bad." This honest and kindly German gentleman obviously cannot conceive that things called facsimiles may be published by official editors, which give an absolutely wrong impression of the original codex. For instance, in the second volume of these Ancient Laws is a lithographic so-called facsimile of a page (folio 4a) of the Harleian MS. 432, corresponding with p. 48 et seq. of the printed vol. i. I shall conclude this letter by mentioning some of the discrepancies between this "facsimile" and the Codex:

CODEX.		
cain daceli		
trebaire		

I have high authority for saying that it is not the same as the character of any extant Irish MS.

FACSIMILE.	Code
col. 2, fonaisct	fonaiscte
særleicti	særleicth
cobrat	cobrath
1. tuea ?	1. tren
esbr	esbus
isligen	isligenn
blesa	blechta
f fta	fri ferta

And in the right margin of the "facsimile" four lines are omitted, which begin with a word forming part of the commentary, the rest being a gloss (i. teora ferba rodlom Eochaid, &c.). This will explain why I urged in my letter in the Academy of September 26, 1885, that photographic facsimiles of the Irish law-texts should be published. Whitley Stokes.

#### "A" HISTORICAL SKETCH, OR "AN" HIS-TORICAL SKETCH.

Hampstead: Nov. 80, 1885. Prof. Baumgartner has surely confounded together two distinct matters, in raising the question of the form of indefinite article to be

used (1) before h, (2) before u (or eu).

In the latter case the usage of English speech is clear, and in accordance with reason. Initial long u is pronounced yu, and the word therefore begins with a consonant, before which the correct article is a: therefore, a union, a unicorrect article is a: therefore, a union, a university. Writers are, however, sometimes misled by the spelling to think that such words begin with vowels, and to use an; this is common in the older writers, and is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible, e.g., Acts viii. 26 "an eunuch." But it is old-fashioned in books, and obsolete in colloquial language.

In the former case, that of h, the correct principle, acknowledged by most writers, and to a large extent in colloquial speech, seems to be that when the initial syllable commencing with h is accented, the accent imparts to the hsuch force as to cause it to be felt as a consonant preceding its vowel, and separating it from the vowel preceding it in the article a, so that there is no hiatus, and no need for "an." On the other hand, in historical, his- is an unaccented syllable, and the initial h necessarily so faint as not to serve as a barrier between the vowels in a his-torical. Consequently, the article assumes its proper form before a vowel. I believe this to be the usual practice as well as the right principle both in ordinary speech and in literature at the present day, though undoubtedly many do not conform to it, chiefly, I think, from not realising the important distinction in power between the accented and the un-RUSSELL MARTINEAU. accented h.

# DR. MORRIS'S EDITION OF "CHAUCER'S PROLOGUE, ETC."

Dulwich College, S.E.: Nov. 29, 1885. I observe that, in last week's ACADEMY, Mr. Furnivall has corrected a misprint in the Introduction to Mr. Morris's edition of Chaucer's Prologue. May I, not correct, but under correction, enquire whether this is the only oversight in that Introduction? On pp. xxi., xxii. (ed. 1883) we are told:

(1) "As Chaucer lay at the Tabard . . . nine and twenty pilgrims . . . arrived at the 'hostelry' [sie]. The poet joined them." (2) "It was agreed that each pilgrim should tell two tales on their road to Beckett's shrine, and two other tales on their way home." (3) "The number of pilgrims was thirty-two."

Let me take (2), as the least important point, first. Surely Chaucer never intended Harry Bailly to tell a tale (cf. 1. 790, seqq.)? He was umpire, and the character of story-teller would have been too cruel a test of his impartiality, especially considering the nature of the prize proposed. Then, as to (1) and (3), does not

Chaucer include himself in the twenty-nine? Cf. 1. 20, seqq. :

"In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay . . . At night was come into that hostelrie Wel nyne and twenty in a compainye."

Cf. 1. 29, "we"; ll. 541-4, "Ther was also a Reeve, etc. and myself." I am not a very ready reckoner; but certainly, even without Chaucer, I make up thirty original pilgrims, taking the list as we find it in Mr. Morris's text. But is that text sound? In l. 164 he reads "Prestes thre." Yet Prof. Skeat—Prioress, etc. Tale, thre." Yet Prof. Skeat—Prioress, etc. Tals, p. xv.—has pointed out that these words are certainly corrupt. In short, it seems to me that the total number of pilgrims was thirty-one, i.e., the original twenty-nine (of whom Chaucer was one), afterwards increased by the addition of Harry Bailly and the Canon's Yoeman. W. T. LENDRUM.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK,

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

Monday, Dec. 7, 5 p.m. Royal Institution: General Monthly Meeting.
5 p.m. London Institution: "Science applied to Cookery," by Mr. Mattieu Williams.
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "Colour and Colours; Complementary Colours; The Chromatic Circle," by Prof. A. H. Church."
8 p.m. Society of Arts: Cantor Lecture, "The Microscope," III. by Mr. J. Mayall.
8 p.m. Victoria Institution: "The Unreasonableness of Agnosticism," by Mr. J. Hassell.

Tusdax, Dec. 8, 8 p.m. Anthropological Institute: Exhibition of Portraits of Africans, by Mr. H. H. Johnston; Exhibition of Photographs of North American Indians, by Mr. W. Seton Karr; "The Nicobar Islanders, with special reference to the Inland Tribe of Great Nicobar," by Mr. E. H. Man.
8 p.m. Colonial Institute: "The Material Progress of New South Wales," by Mr. E. Combes.
8 p.m. Oivil Engineers:
Wednesday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: "White Pigments," by Prof. A. H. Church.
8 p.m. Society of Arts: "The Load-lines of Ships," by Prof. F. Eigar.
THURDAY, Dec. 10, 4.30 p.m. Royal Society.
7 p.m. London Institution: "The Musical Dramas of Wagner," II., by Mr. C. Armbruster.
8 p.m. Mathematical: "The Numerical Solution of Cubic Equations," by Mr. G. Heppel; "A Theorem in Plane Kisematics," by Mr. J. J. Walker; "The Induction of Electric Currents in an Infinite Plane Current Sheet which is rotating in a Field of Magnetic Force," by Mr. A. B. Basset.
8 p.m. Telegraph Engineers: "A Method of climinating the effects of Earth and Polarisation Currents in Fault Testing," by Mr. Walker; "A Method of Localising a Fault in a Cable by Tests from one end only," by Mr. H. Kingsford.
8 p.m. Antiquaries: "The Manor of Aylesbury," by Mr. John Parker.
Friday, Dec. 11, 7.30 p.m. Civil Engineers: Students' Meeting.
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "Yellow Pigments," by Prof. A. H. Church.

bury," by arr. John. Civil Engineers: Students'
Meeting.
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "Yellow Pigments,"
by Prof. A. H. Church.
8 p.m. New Shakspere: "The Prose in Shakspere's Plays—the Rules for its Use, and the Help
it gives us in understanding the Plays," by Mr. H.
Sharp.

Sharp.
Saturdar, Dec. 12, 3 p.m., Physical: "Some Thermodynamical Relations," by Prof. William Ramsay and Dr. Sydney Young.

#### SCIENCE. .

The Wanderings of Plants and Animals from their First Home. By Victor Hehn. Edited by J. S. Stallybrass. (Sonnen-

STUDENTS of ancient natural history are largely indebted to Hehn's Kulturpflanzen und Hausthiere. It was inevitable that sooner or later some one would translate the book, and all who have used Mr. Stallybrase's translation of Grimm's Teutonic Mythology may well be grateful that Hehn has at length appeared in an English dress under his auspices. No more interesting book, to all who have looked into the history of what we somewhat rashly call our native plants and animals, can be imagined. It tells the fairytales of their introduction and increase in Europe. It has a new and undreamt of antiquity, and associations unnumbered, where,

with to dower our common animals and plants. Although the volume is mainly intended for the scholar, it is sufficiently interesting to captivate that butterfly, the "general reader."
We greatly miss the Greek and Latin quotations in the original which rendered it so nseful to the student; but the editor tells us it was judged better "for the convenience of the common reader to banish" them. It may well be wished that he had thought more of the convenience of the scholar. Fortunately the notes, so rich in philological speculations, are translated in full, as if to make amends. Far be it, therefore, from us to grumble when Mr. Stallybrass has given English naturalists so many historical and literary speculations on the common plants and animals of Europe.

Till quite recent days students of our flora considered it sufficient to ascribe the introduction of a fruit-tree or useful garden-herb to the Crusaders, or, if they wished for a more respectable antiquity, to the Romans. Occasionally some imaginative writers referred it to the Druids. Beyond that the wildest speculation could not pierce. Of late, geologists have succeeded in gaining a glimpse of prehistoric life from scratchings on mammoth tusks in the Dordogne caverns, and the like. It is due to his patient collection of facts, and comparison of evidence, that Hehn has un-earthed a large body of information on the early dissemination of plants and animals. He was not satisfied with the literary evidence which even the most diligent search among early authors afforded. He added to this the teachings of botany, and of natural science generally, on the present distribution of the earliest fauna and flora of Europe. Finally, comparative philology lent her aid, enabling him to systematise the teachings already won from the past, and to show, if a plant or animal-name is not a mere Greek vocable, but possesses a root and ramifying branches in Hebrew or Persian, that it can be traced through Asia Minor and across the Aegean to the Peleponnesus, or else round by the Euxine and Thrace into Northern Greece. Thus its wanderings can be followed, and its original home discovered. This cumulative method is, for the present, the only scientific course. It is quite possible, nay probable, that in the course of time much collateral evidence will be brought to light, and entirely new fields of enquiry disclosed; for the present, however, Hehn's procedure, as it is the most rational, is also the most fertile in

The book opens with a general picture of ancient civilisation when the Aryan migration brought a nobler race into Europe, and especially to the two peninsulas of Greece and Italy. The transition from a pastoral to a more settled agricultural life was proceeding; men apparently used the primitive wheeled waggon made entirely of wood during the summer, and dwelt in the circular pit-huts through the winter, so many of the traces of which are scattered over our own country, as, for instance, the so-called British village of Grim's Pound, on Dartmoor. Hehn has here idealised the primitive sketches of society found in Homer and Herodotus, together with the manners and customs of the early Germans as revealed in the pages of Tacitus. It may reasonably be

not consciously heighten the virtues and simple mode of life of the German tribes in order to contrast them with the slavish vices of degenerate Rome. What the author means in this connexion by broadly asserting that the pig of those early times was "the small socalled peat-pig (Torf-swine), far inferior to the animal now improved by cultivation and commerce," we cannot divine. The ancestors of our domestic pig are the wild swine, just as our tame ducks have been bred by careful selection from the wild bird. Fossil remains of the wild boar have been found in the Isle of Portland and in Lincolnshire. Rütimeyer, indeed, detected in Switzerland during the Neolithic period the existence of a pig approaching the Eastern breeds, and this he called S. sorofa palustris, or Torfschwein; but he was far from suggesting that it was generally found. In succeeding chapters the chief herbs and trees of the ancient world are cleverly treated: onions, cummin, laurel, the quince, the date-palm, and the like. A pro-fusion of learning is spent on each chapter; and the herbs are generally traced like the wild horse, to the Central Asian plains, the original home of man. Take the millet, for example. It was in general use throughout the ancient world, but especially in the West. Etymologically the word seems to mean "honey fruit"; but it probably included any vegetable food, especially any cereal, in contradistinction to the bloody animal food of a nomad population. When Pytheas took his celebrated voyage northwards through our seas he mentions that the people in what was most probably Kent lived off millet. (Fragmenta, No. xi., ed. Arvedson). Pytheas is thought to have lived during the reign of Alexander the Great, which gives of itself a respectable antiquity to millet. This quotation has not been omitted by Hehn. Turning now to the old-world animals, it is not every one who knows that the rabbit is not indigenous in Great Britain. It is a native of the warmer parts of the Mediterranean. Iberia abounded with rabbits in historic times, and they were probably introduced into England by the Romans. Curiously enough at the present time the rabbit has so multiplied in New Zealand (where our colonists introduced it) that the farmers are obliged to import at a considerable price stoats and weasels from England to keep them down. Hehn informs us that the natives of Majorca and Minorca once sent an embassy to the Romans, begging to be assigned another land to dwell in, as they could not hold their own against the multitude of rabbits. However, relief from this pest was found in the ferret, a semi-domesticated animal, which they procured from Africa. The cat is, comparatively speaking, quite a modern acquisition. All writers trace it to Northern Egypt, whence it has spread far and wide. The late Prof. Rolleston, it is well known, believed that the cat of the Romans was really a species of weasel, probably the pine-marten. At every turn some odd piece of classical lore turns up. Thus, Virgil has often been blamed for his introduction of the onager into his verse as being poetical surplusage. Hehn shows that it meant the wild horse rather than the wild the pages of Tacitus. It may reasonably be ass, and that wild horses, according to Strabo, inquired, however, whether Tacitus did lived in the Alps. A curious chapter treats lecture at Oxford next Saturday, December 12,

of the saffron, Croous sativus, which was so dear to the ancients. Our own Saffron Walden preserves a reminiscence of it, "the dignified aristocratic cousin," as Hehn calls it, of the modest "European crocus of spring time, orocus vernus." The plant was largely cultivated in Spain, whence "the Arabic name of 'saffrou' [Ital. Zafferano, Span. Azafran] has quite supplented the Greco-Latin 'crocus,' which itself must have come from the confines of the same Arabia some fifteen or twenty centuries before."

In this treasure of erudition it is impossible to open a page without discovering some noteworthy derivation or singular association. Thus it is pointed out that, although the apple is undoubtedly the descendant of our crab, the finer sorts are not directly sprung from it, but are due to slips brought from beyond the Alps, and grafted on the native tree. Pears again are mentioned in Homer; and the wild pear is found in Southern Europe, but is a doubtful native of our island. Hehn concludes, after comparing the Latin pyrus with its Greek equivalent ἄπιος, that "the Latin word passed over to the Celts and Germans, proving that the pear-tree did not originally grow in the home of either nation." To this we certainly demur. It may be remarked, however, that our finer pears are undoubtedly foreign introductions. Thus, Jedburgh pears were the gift of the monks, and the bergamot pear was introduced by the Crusaders. It was originally grown near Angora, and called "Beg Armud," "the prince of pears." Cider (sidro, cidro, from σίκερα, a well-known Semitic word) is, we may add, appropriately given as this last word's translation in St. Luke i. 15 in an old Bible in Hereford Cathedral.

But these notes must end. It is an obvious conclusion from this book that our agriculture, as well as most of our cereals and vegetables, come, like intellectual civilisation, from the East. To the generalisation, however, that the dark-haired, black-eyed nations always conquer their blue-eyed, blonde neighbours, the condition "in the Old World" must be appended. It is just the other way in the Western Hemisphere. Much gratitude will be felt by all scholars for Mr. Stallybrass's book. He gives them in their own tongue a great body of erudition and a collection of striking facts. The index is excellent; and particular attention should be drawn to the philological notes, which are most valuable, and run to the length of a hundred pages. Every student of nature, as well as every classical scholar, will thank Hehn and Mr. Stallybrass for their labours. That their conclusions cannot be expected to be final is only more or less the condition of all learning.

M. G. WATKINS.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

On Tuesday next, December 8, the Royal Geographical Society will open, at 53, Great Marlborough Street, a collection of appliances used in geographical education, formed by Mr. Keltie, the Society's inspector of geographical education, during his recent visits to the various countries of Europe. The collection consists of maps, atlases, reliefs, globes, text-books, geographical pictures, &c.

on "A General Theory of the Necessary Singularities of Curves of Unspecified Order." The lecture, though supposing some elementary knowledge of modern algebra, will not go into details of calculation, but will have for its principal object to bring to light the existence of a new world of algebraical forms, coordinate in extent, and parallel in character, genesis, and laws of association, with those which occur in the theory of invariants.

which occur in the theory of invariants.

THE course of lectures on Hydro-mechanics, delivered in the early part of the year at the Institution of Civil Engineers, has just been published. The opening lecture, by Dr. John Evans, is entitled "Physiography," and deals with the natural history of the springs and rivers of our country; while the utilisation of these sources of water-supply is ably discussed in succeeding lectures by Dr. W. Pole, Prof. Unwin, Sir C. Hartley, and Mr. T. Stevenson. Sir E. J. Reed devotes the concluding discourse to the Forms of Ships. to the Forms of Ships.

#### PHILOLOGY NOTES.

Dr. ALEXANDER KOHUT, of Vienna, has undertaken the publication of a lexicon to the Targum, Talmud, and Midrash. The work will be based on the Aruch of Rabbi Nathan Ben Jachiel, of the eleventh century, supplemented by numerous original MS. authorities. It will form eight quarto volumes, of which the first is now ready, and the rest will be issued at intervals of three months. The publisher is Mr. Townsend MacCoun, of New York.

PART III. of the volume for 1882-3-4 of the Transactions of the London Philological Society is full of interesting matter, as one need hardly say when we mention the following names:

Thomas Powel on English borrowed words in Welsh, Sweet on Spoken North Welsh, Prince L.-L. Bonaparte on Basque Grammar, Morfill on Slavonic Literature, and Dr. Murray, whose address as president is full of valuable information of the most varied nature.

THE Gaelic Society of Inverness has just issued the eleventh volume of its Transactions. It is both larger and better than the previous volumes, if our memory does not play us false. The contributor of the most interesting and scholarly papers is Mr. Alex. Macbain; but the volume also contains Gaelic legends and Gaelic songs, which are very welcome.

#### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY .- (Thursday, Oct. 29.)

PROF. SKEAT, President, in the Chair. — Dr. Fennell read notes to the following effect: Fromell read notes to the following effect: 
ἀτρόγετος. The traditional meaning was probably due to false etymology, and cannot be defended by τραφερήν τε καὶ ὑγρήν (which = "solid and liquid"), nor by Euripides' ἀκάρπιστα πεδία. It probably means "untrodden," "pathless," being formed from τρυγ for στρυγ, connected with στρεύγιομαι (originally = "to struggle"), and with the Eng. struggle, trudge, It. truccare, Sp. trocar, Eng. truck = "to barter," which may accordingly be Teutonic. δῶρον II. Liddell and Scott ought to give references to Plin., N. H., xxxv. 14.49, Vitruvius II. 2, p. 22, and to give δίδωρον. The postepic δῶρον II. seems to be confined to the brick trade. Liddell and Scott should not give πεντά-δωρον adj., but πεντάδωρον = "a brick of the cube of five palm-breaths"; and similarly with τετρά-δωρον. The most likely meaning of δίδωρον seems to be a brick of two ὀρθόδωρο by a square foot (ὀρθόδωρον sometimes = σπιθαμή = ¼ ft.), or else it was twice the cube of two δῶρα. This δῶρον is probably a distinct word from δῶρον, a gift. Is probably a distinct word from δωρον, a gift. Is not "backgammon" for abackgammon (compare bate, peal, fray, vanguard, vant-currir), aback being adapted from Fr. abaque = abacus? The Latin word has the meaning "gaming-board," "wooden tray." A paper was read on "The Homeric Geni-

tive," by Mr. J. A. Platt. The following is a statement of the main positions: (1) The author of the Odyssey (exclusive of the lay of Demodocus of the Odyssey (exclusive of the lay of Demodocus and of all that follows \$\psi\$ 296) observes with scarcely an exception the following rule: A genitive in -ow may not agree with a genitive in -ow unless one of the words is at the end of a line. This applies to nouns and adjectives, to two adjectives agreeing with one noun, to participles, &c. (2) Later poets pay no attention to this rule. (3) The admitted exceptions, where one of the words is at the end of a line, are much fewer in Homer than in later poets. line, are much fewer in Homer than in later poets, and contain a much larger proportion of proper names. (4) There is evidence that, where the rule is violated in the genuine Odyssey, the form in -ov should be corrected to -oo, e.g., in  $\beta$  340,  $\delta \nu$   $\delta \lambda$   $\pi(\theta o_1)$  of  $\nu(0)$   $\sigma(0)$   $\sigma(0$ parts) a further exception is admitted, when one of the words in agreement is a monosyllable. Thus qualified, it is broken in two instances only, which cannot be corrected by the forms -000 and -00, viz., E 315 (where read \$\phi \text{atch}\text{be} \text{forms} -000 and -00, viz., explained passage, which should be obelised. (6) The treatment of the rule in the Hesiodic poems to the treatment of the rule in the restour poems confirms the belief that the Works and Days (where there is no violation) is extremely old, and that the Theogony may be divided into an earlier and a later portion.

(Thursday, Nov. 12.)

Prof. Skeat, President, in the Chair.—A paper by Dr. Hermann Hager was read, which dealt with the traditional explanation of some points in Athenian law, especially the manner of election of Athenian law, especially the manner of election of the lepomoiol τῶν Σεμνῶν θεῶν, and the meanings of the terms ἀντιγραφή and ἡητορική γραφή. With respect to the last, Dr. Hager suggests that it signified an indictment, not against a ἡητωρ (as it were a γραφή παρανόμων), but by one or more of the ἡήτορες publicly appointed for the purpose. The paper, which cannot conveniently be presented in abstract, will be published in the Proceedings of the society.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY .- (Wednesday, Nov. 18.) MR. HENRY HARRIES read a paper on "The Typhoon Origin of the Weather over the British Isles during the Second Half of October, 1882." The author had prepared daily charts of the North Pacific Ocean from September 26 to October 10; and by permission of the Meteorological Council the charts of the area between the Western Coast of America and Eastern Europe were utilised. The earliest evidence of the formation of the typhoon was on September 27, some distance east-south-east of Manilla. At first the movement was towards north-west, five miles an hour; but on September 30, when the storm area extended to 1300 miles north-west of the centre, it turned towards north-east, crossed the south-eastern corner of Japan at thirty-three miles an hour, and attained a maximum rate of fifty-one miles per hour on October 2 mum rate of fifty-one miles per hour on October 2 to 3, after leaving the Japanese coast. In the neighbourhood of the Aleutian Archipelago the progress was very slow until the 9th, when it rapidly increased to thirty-five miles an hour, and entered Oregon on the 10th. The Rocky Mountains proved to be no obstacle to the progress of the typhoon, which crossed the range at thirty-six and three-quarters miles an hour, and maintaining this rate passed across the Northern States taining this rate passed across the Northern States into Canada. Thence it crossed Hudson's Bay and Labrador into Davis Strait. Altering its course to Labrador into Davis Strait. Altering its course to south of east it passed the southern point of Greenland on October 16; and two days later, in lat. 55 N., long. 27 W., it was joined by another disturbance, which seems to have formed about October 9 in 20 deg. N., 48 deg. W. The juncture of the two storms was followed by a complete cessation of progressive movement for a week (October 19 to 26); and during this period there was formed the subsidiary gale which suddenly arrived over our southern counties on the morning of October 24, completely upsetting the Meteorological Office forecasts of the previous night. The author quoted several records previous night. The author quoted several records from ships, which went to show that this secondary storm had not formed until nearly midnight, and that reports from our low-lying stations would not have enabled successful forecasts to be issued before 3 a.m., October 24. As this gale passed away, the primary moved into the Bay of Biscay and entered France on the 27th. As in Japan and America its

advance was marked by violent gales and destructive floods over a very extensive area, from Algeria northwards. The damage caused by the floods in northwards. The damage caused by the floods in England was serious, but trifling compared with the losses in Southern and Central Europe, where the destruction was enormous. This typhoon was the principal contributor in making the month of October, 1882, the worst within living memory. With this final effort it seemed to have expended its fury, and in crossing France and the Netherlands it gradually filled up. The last trace of the typhoon was in the Baltic on November 1, when it quietly dispersed after covering over 14,000 nautical miles in thirty-six days, the longest track hitherto followed day by day.

Society of Antiquaries .- (Thursday, Nov. 19.) Dr. John Evans, President, in the Chair. A letter was read from the Rev. D. J. Stewart reporting the threatened destruction of the houses on the west threatened destruction of the houses on the west side of Weston's-yard at Eton College, in order to provide a site for some proposed addition to the school. Mr. Stewart stated that the whole range thus threatened is especially interesting from its historical associations, for it was here that Sir Henry Savile, Provost of Eton in 1596, set up the presses which printed his celebrated edition of the works of St. John Chrysostom. After some discussion the matter was referred to the Council to take such action as may be necessary.—The Rev. J. take such action as may be necessary.—The Rev. J. McFarlan communicated particulars of a proposal to erect a building over the Runic cross at Ruthwell for its better preservation. In the discussion which followed it was suggested that instead of spending £250 upon a temporary building over the cross, it would be a much better plan in every way to remove the stone to the shelter of the parish to remove the stone to the shelter of the parish church, especially as the present site is not absolutely the original one.—The Rev. G. C. Finwicke exhibited a mediaeval chalice, circa 1485, from Blaston St. Giles; also a pair of silver snuffers (with London hall mark of 1691), and tray of the date of 1691-2, and four deeds relating to the Manor of Blaston, bearing the signature of Henry Lord Cromwell.—Mr. A. J. Evans exhibited a bronze rapier, and a spear-head of peculiarly broad form, lately dredged up at Sandford Lock; also a bronze spear-head from the Wrekin.—Dr. Evans exhibited a hoard of bronze implements found at Felixstowe, including knives, celts, a gouge, and a saw—the first one found in England. There was also the end of sword scabbard, beautifully finished.—Mr. E. St. F. Moore exhibited some Roman remains from the same place, consisting of Samian ware, a lachrimasame place, consisting of Samian ware, a lachrimasame place, consisting of Samian ware, a lachrima-tory, tweezers, a speculum, a fibula, a bronze armilla, and coins of Victorinus, Gordianus, and other emperors. Among these objects there was also found a salt spoon of the last century, with the remains of a hall mark; a bronze thimble, probably mediaeval, and the stem of a mediaeval candlestick.—Dr. Freshfeld reported the discovery of a number of silver ornaments near the cathedral church of Kief, an account of which he hoped eventually to lay before the society.

(Thursday, Nov. 26.)
Dr. Evans, President, in the Chair.—Mr. Middle-Dr. Evans, President, in the Chair,—Mr. Middle-ton contributed a paper on a Saxon chapel recently discovered in Deerhurst Manor House, a half-timbered building of the sixteenth century. The nave measures 25 ft. by 15 ft. 10 in., and the chancel 14 ft. by 11 ft. 2 in. The chancel arch is semi-circular, and slightly stilted. Its width is 7 ft. 6 in., that at Bradford being only 3 ft. The courth well of the chancel has been walled down south wall of the chancel has been pulled down, and a floor has been constructed across the building. There is no trace of an east window or of an altar. In the north-east corner is an early English corbel for a statue. Built into a fifteenthcentury chimney-stack is a stone slab bearing a mutilated inscription, which is probably contemporaneous with the chapel. It has been conjecturally completed in the following ways, the letters supplied being within the brackets: "[In] hono[rem S. P]etri [apostoli] hoc [altar]e dedicatum est," or "[In] hono[rem sanct]e Tri[nitatis] hoc," &c. The former reading is more probably correct. A rubbing of an inscription from the church at Deerhurst, now in the Ashmolean Museum, was exhibited for comparison.—Mr. Everard Green contributed a paper on a diptych, having on one panel a crucilizion, and on the other the portrait of a lated inscription, which is probably contemporaneous

knight kneeling before the Virgin and Child. From a careful examination of the arms and devices, and after considerable research, Mr. devices, and after considerable research, Mr. Green has discovered that it represented Philip van Hinckaert, who was castellan of Terveuren, a castle about seven miles east of Brussels, in 1460. -Mr. Franks exhibited a triple bronze chrismatory —Mr. Franks exhibited a triple bronze chrismatory belonging to Mr. Jennings. The three compart-ments bore the letters O. (oleum infirmorum), C. (Chrisma), S. (oleum catechumenorum or sanc-tum).—Mr. Middleton exhibited a cistola from a thirteenth-century campanile at Rome, which is interesting as a specimen of early glazing.

EDUCATION SOCIETY .- (Monday, Nov. 23).

EDUCATION SOCIETY.—(Monday, Nov. 23).

CANON DANIEL in the Chair.—A paper was read by Mr. H. Courthope Bowen on the "Training of the Faculty of Conception." Mr. Bowen began by stating that his object was to show how our ordinary school subjects could be used so as to exercise this faculty. He then proceeded to run rapidly over the main points in conception, the nature of its growth, &c., concluding with a few general hints on the supplying of material for, and the kind of guidance to be given during, the exercises. Conception, he said, was usually divided into comparison, abstraction, and generalisation; but for school-work it would be better to substitute classification: for the last, inasmuch as generalclassification for the last, inasmuch as generalising was always a dangerous business—especially for those whose knowledge was limited and whose facts generally had been insufficiently tested. Bowen then sketched specimen lessons on lines and rectilineal figures, grammar, the classification of plants, elementary dynamics, the life of plants, meanings of words, general notions, as courage, duty, &c., and terms of history. A short discussion followed; and it was decided that a special meeting should be called to discuss the somewhat novel problems which Mr. Bowen had introduced as some somewhat had hed bed an experience of the decident of the state of the as the members had had an opportunity of studying them in print.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. - (Tuesday, Nov. 24.) Francis Galton, Esq., President, in the Chair.—
Mr. C. H. Read exhibited a number of ethnological objects from Tierra del Fuego.—The President exhibited, on behalf of Dr. J. E. Billings, of the United States army, a collection of composite photographs of skulls. There were in all twenty photographs, forming four series, referring respec-tively to Sandwich Islanders, ancient Californians, Arapahoe Indians, and Witchitaw Indians; and acapance Indians, and which are acapanically male skulls,—Dr. E. B. Tylor exhibited some Australian Tunduns or "bull-roarers," and explained the manner in which they were used.—Mr. J. Theodore Bent read a paper on "Insular Greek Customs," in which he described many ceremonics now used by the Christian inhabitants of the islands of the Aegean Sea that were obviously derived from, or survivals of, ancient Pagan customs.—Mrs. Bent exhibited a collection of Greek dresses, drapery, and other objects from the islands referred to in the paper.—Mr. J. W. Crombie read a paper on "The Game of Hop-Scotch," in which he traced the origin of the game to a period anterior to the introduction of Christianity. He showed that in early Christian of Christianity. He showed that in early Christian times children had some rough idea of representing in this game the progress of the soul through the future world, and that the division of the figure into seven courts was on account of the belief in seven heavens.—Dr. E. B. Tylor gave a résumé of a paper by Mr. A. W. Howitt, on "The Migrations of the Kurnai Ancestors (Gippsland)."

#### Aristotelian Society.—(Monday, Nov. 30.)

A PAPER was read by Mr. D. G. Ritchie, of Jesus College, Oxford, on Plato's Phasto. The paper dealt mainly with the question of the interpretation of Platonic doctrine about the soul. It was argued that, although the view (of Hegel) may be correct, according to which the idea of individual immortality is no necessary part of the Platonic idealism, yet the view of Teichmüller, that Platonic himself did not hold such an idea, was mistaken. The various arguments in the Phaedo, Phaedrus, and Republic were taken in detail and discussed.

#### FINE ART.

Revue Egyptologique. Deuxième Année, 1881-2; Troisième Année, 1883-4-5. (Paris: Leroux.)

WERE I obliged to confess why so long an interval has elapsed since I last took note of the progress of the Revue Egyptologique, I should own that I have been fairly daunted by the colossal development and the no less colossal erudition of this important periodical. The second volume, for instance (1881-2), which is well-nigh as bulky as a volume of the *Ency*clopaedia Britannica, contains not only articles with texts, translations, and commentaries on the laws, metrology, mathematics, monetary system, and philosophy of ancient Egypt, but also treatises on the comparative value, pon-derosity, and capacity of Egyptian and Hebrew coins, weights, and measures; numerous trans-lations of Greek and Coptic papyri, chiefly pertaining to patristic literature; translations of documents of the class known as "demotic contracts"; reviews of Egyptological works, &c., &c. Full four-fifths of these articles, and upwards of 125 supplementary pages reproduced in facsimile, are from the pen of Prof. Revillout. Equally rich in historical material, the third volume is almost wholly the work of the same indefatigable hand. It contains, inter alia, more demotic contracts; more patristic narratives; articles on the revenue, the fiscal system, and the administration of justice in Egypt under the Ptolemies; an important treatise on the law of landlord and tenant; and an enquiry of very great interest into the organisation of the army and the privileges accorded to the soldiery by Rameses II. In dealing with so large a mass of learned articles, it is manifestly impossible for the reviewer to single out more than two or three articles for special illustration. Among those two or three, however, a foremost place is necessarily claimed for Prof. Revillout's ingenious enquiry, entitled "La Caste militaire organisée par Rameses II., d'après Diodore de Sicile et la Poème de Pentaour.

The ecclesiastic wealth of ancient Egypt was prodigious. Innumerable inscriptions on the walls of Karnak, Denderah, Edfoo, and other temples catalogue the wide domains with which successive sovereigns endowed the sacred colleges and the abodes of the gods. Victorious leges and the abodes of the gods. Victorious Pharaohs, returning from foreign conquests, poured their booty into the treasuries of hundreds of temples. The high priest of Ptah at Memphis, of Ra at Heliopolis, of Amen at Thebes, were the most powerful vassals of the double crown. In the Mosaic narrative, where Joseph is represented as buying up all the landed property of the Egyptians for the aggrandisement of his royal master, the territorial rights of the priesthood are said to have torial rights of the priesthood are said to have remained intact. The soil was therefore divided at that time (which appears to have been during the rule of the Hyksos conquerors) into two parts, namely, crown-lands and church-lands. The classical historians, however, represent the king, the priesthood, and the soldiery as equal sharers of the soil, and convergent tradition points to Rameses II. as author of this tripartite division. Herodotus expressly attributes to him a sweeping measure for the redistribu-tion of the land; while Diodorus especially dwells upon the fact that this Pharaoh not only fixed the boundaries of the nomes and organised a system of provincial government, but that he also partitioned the soil of Egypt between himself, the priests, and the soldiery. Prof. Revillout's recent researches into the obscure labyrinth of ancient Egyptian law, and, above all, the happy inspiration which prompted him to collate Diodorus with Pentaur, have confirmed the truth of these statements in a

very remarkable manner.
The famous epic composed by the court-poet

Pentaur celebrates, as everyone knows, the valorous deed of Rameses when, cut off from the main body of his army, he found himself confronted by the Khetan forces under the walls of Kadesh. That he was supported only by his advanced guard, and also, perhaps, by his house-hold troops, may be taken for granted; but, according to Pentaur, he rushed alone into the according to Pentaur, he rushed alone into the midst of the enemy. Six times he charged, and six times he routed, the charioted Kheta; and when towards nightfall his laggard battalions came up, they found the field strewn with dead. "And lo! there was no place for the foot to tread, so numerous were the slain!" Hereupon the king addressed those who had taken no part in the engagement, accused them of faint-heartedness, overwhelmed them with reproaches, and reminded them of the benefits they had received at his hands. "There is not one among you," he said, "for whom I have not made a happy life in my land. With my possessions have I aggrandised you. I have confirmed the son in the holdings of the father. Whichever of you cometh to me with a petition, I protect him. No prince does for his soldiers what I have done for you. I have granted you to abide in good homes and in your towns, provided only that I find you in your place on the day and at the hour when you are sum-moned to the field; yet behold, you have acted as cowards!" Thus, "in cadenced lines," wrote the courtly scribe; and, strangely enough, although his poem has been repeatedly translated, it has been left for Prof. Revillout to discover that there was something more than rhetoric in the stately periods which he put into the mouth of his hero:

into the mouth of his hero:

"Ainsi Ramsès avait donné en héritage perpétuel certains biens (de son domaine) aux soldats dans leurs villes," he remarks, "avec des points en concentration en cas de guerre. C'est toute l'organisation décrite par Diodore. Notons que Pentaour parle aussi du droit de pétition directe au roi accordé aux membres de la caste militaire. Ce droit, nous le voyons encore exercé par les soldats comme par les prêtres à l'époque Lagide. Quant à la division des terres en terre sacrée (leoà vi) en démotique neterhotep. terre des guerriers (leρά γη) en démotique neterhotep, terre des guerriers (μαχίμων), et terre du roi (βασιλική), elle est sans cesse mentionnée dans les circulaires Ptolémaïques, dans le décret de Rosette, les contrats démotiques, etc." (Année, 3ème, p. 102).

Touching this vaunted right of petition, there exists, however, incontestable evidence that it was by no means confined to the soldiery and the priesthood, and that it certainly did not originate with Rameses II.; for we have in the British Museum, inscribed upon a limestone flake about the size and shape of a man's hand, the humble petition of one Kenna, a workman, addressed some two hundred years earlier to Amenhotep III. (XVIIIth Dynasty), praying his "Good Lord" to decide a question of pro-perty between himself and a fellow-workman. That Rameses II. did actually endow his soldiery with some portion of the crown-lands may, on the other hand, be accepted as an important fact added to our knowledge of Egyptian history. In another paper, entitled "La Location," Prof. Revillout enters into a very interesting examination of the agrarian law, showing how this tripartite division of the land affected the agricultural classes, and upon what conditions the tenant-farmer of antiquity occupied his holding. His landlords were either priests or soldiers, and with neither does be seem to have had a particularly easy time. They guarded their territorial privileges with extreme jealousy, the most stringent precautions being taken to prevent any possible claim to perpetuity of occupation on the part of the tenant. By a clause which occurs in every lease (and the museums of Europe contain numbers of these leases), it is expressly specified that the tenant shall quit at the expiration of his term, the proprietor being free to let again to whomsoever he pleases. The extension of leases, or the tacit prolongation of leases, whether of houses or land, is formally interdicted, as calculated to create an apparent right. The tenant who desired to remain in occupation had to begin again with a new lease, as though he were a stranger. As for arable land, the inalienable property of the privileged classes, it could only be leased from year to year; whereupon Prof. Revillout observes that this system continued to prevail in Egypt up to the commencement of the present century.

"Tout se conserva, en effet, dans la vieille patrie des Pharaons... du temps de notre commission d'Egypte, la loi antique du roi Ramsès II. (ou Sésostris) était encore en vigueur dans certaines parties de la Thébaide, tandis que la loi relativement plus récente du roi Memphite Bocchoris était universellement observée dans la Basse-Egypte' (36ms Année, p. 135).

Compelled to treat, as a rule, with a farmergeneral acting as agent, instead of with the landlord himself, the tenant-farmer was actually a sub-tenant tilling his acres under surveillance. It was not enough that he engaged, according to the terms of his lease, to pay such and such a rental; he must also engage to cultivate the land in person, to irrigate it with the water (i.e., the inundation) of the current year, and to submit all the produce thereof, "without fraud," to the inspection of the agent. Also, he must pay the taxes due from the proprietor to the crown. Neither was it enough that he should undertake these things in a merely legal sense, by affixing his signature to the deed in presence of witnesses; he was required (at all events in Ptolemaic times) to bind himself by oath, in the name of the reigning sovereign, regarded as both king and god, in the name of that sovereign's deified predecessors, and in the names of all the gods of Egypt. He sometimes even pledged himself to renounce that last resource of the oppressed—his right of appeal.

"I swear before Ptolemy the king and Queen Cleopatra his wife, the Gods Euergetes, and before the Gods Philopators, the Gods Epiphanes, the God Philopator, the God Eupator, and before Isis and Osiris, and before every God and every Goddess, that I will cultivate the field of Pseosor son of Pais, and the field of the Ala... both situate in the Neter-hotep (i.e., ecclesiastical lands) of Amen to the north of Thebes, by means of the water of the year 37 to the year 38. I will discharge the taxes due upon them at the King's Gate... I will show you all the produce of those fields, without fraud, and without going forth into any public place there to adjure any divine temple, altar, or statue.... All these things I swear. I will remain still."

Such are the terms by which a certain pastophorus named Phib leased two fields from the farmer-general Ammonius, in the thirty-seventh year of Ptolemy Euergetes II., thus abnegating in advance that privilege of appeal to the gods and of refuge in the temples, which, according to Egyptian law, was the common heritage of the down-trodden free-man and even of the slave. Such appeals were put into writing and addressed to the gods, the gods themselves being called upon as witnesses to the truth of the statement. The priests then inquired into the matter; and, if the slave's story proved correct, he ceased to be the property of his owner, and became the property of the god in whose temple he had taken sanctuary. Prof. Revillout explains, by the way, that "the water" of any given year, calculated from autumn to autumn, means the reserve stored during the inundation of the first year for use during the winter and spring of the second.

during the winter and spring of the second.

In another paper entitled "La Loi de Bocchoris et l'Intérêt à Trente pour Cent," Prof.

Revillout again takes for his text a passage from Diodorus—that, namely, which treats of

the reformed "Commercial Code" instituted by Bocchoris (XXXIVth Dynasty, circa B.C. 720). According to this code, as described by the Greek historian, imprisonment for debt was abolished, the goods of a debtor being alone liable to seizure, and not his person. It was also decreed by Bocchoris that no aggregate amount of interest which exceeded in total the sum originally loaned could be legally claimed by any creditor. What the legal rate of interest was, however, in ancient Egypt did not appear. Comparing these data, as given by Diodorus, with certain demotic documents which, for want of a better name, I will call "notes of Prof. Revillout succeeds in demonstrating that the established rate of interest in Egypt, from the time of Bocchoris downwards, was thirty per cent.; thus verifying the ingenious calculations previously made by Dr. Leemans. By way of illustration, Prof. Revillout quotes a demotic contract (Louvre papyrus, No. 2443) wherein one Patma acknowledges himself the debtor of one Ta Ketem to the amount of fifteen shekels, declaring that if at the end of three years he shall not have paid the debt, he will abandon his goods to the creditor. Now in three years, at the rate of thirty per cent., Patma would owe Ta Ketem twenty-eight shekels and a half for interest, while, according to the law of Bocchoris, interest to the amount of thirty shekels was the utmost that Ta Ketem could exact for use of the thirty shekels lent. Seeing, therefore, that the original loan could produce no more interest, it was necessary to come to a settlement at the expiration of three years. Thus, no debt could drag on for longer than three years—or, more strictly, three years and four months; because the legal total of interest would then be reached. On this Prof. Revillout remarks:

"On voulait éviter la ruse bien connu des usuriers, qui, pendant de longues années, ne reclament aucun paiement et paraissent oublier la créance, pour pouvoir tripler, quadrupler, et quintupler le montant de la dette et ruiner plus sûrement leur victimes. . . . En resumé, le taux légal a trente pour cent était reconnu, et les intérêts des intérêts interdites (2ème année, p. 143)."

The phrase "demotic contracts," used in the sense of a general title to a large and miscellaneous class of Egyptian documents, is not, perhaps, very happily chosen, and it demands a word of explanation. Demotic contracts are in fact the family papers, business memoranda, and private law documents of Egyptian citi-They are written in the demotic script, which is an abbreviated form of hieratic (i.e., the writing of the demos, as distinct from the writing of the hierarchia); and they consist mainly of mortgage deeds, leases, transfers, bills of sale, and what are commonly called marriage settlements. As, however, the con-ditions upon which the men and women of ancient Egypt entered upon what we call "the married state" appear to have been regulated by purely financial considerations, and as there exists no evidence of the performance of any kind of ceremony, whether civil or religious, whereby the covenant of cohabitation was ratified according to law, the term "marriage settlement" is necessarily inaccurate. Our European museums contain hundreds of these demotic contracts, most of which have been found in the ruins of private dwellings at Thebes and Memphis. Some of those in the British Museum, the Louvre, and the Turin collection, were brought from Egypt more than half a century ago, while others are of quite recent discovery. The Louvre for instance herein discovery. The Louvre, for instance, has just been enriched by the purchase of no less than thirty fine examples dating from the reigns of Psammetichus I., Psammetichus II., Apries (the Biblical Hophra), and Amasis II. So chronologically complete is the French collec-

tion, that the keepers of the department of Egyptian MSS. are now able to exhibit an un-Egyptian MSS. are now able to exhibit an unbroken series of specimens of demotic paleography ranging over a period of seven centuries; beginning, that is to say, with the first formation of this script in the time of Tahraka (XXVth Dynasty), and ending with the latest Lagidae. To exaggerate the interest and importance of these and other similar documents (all of which have, till quite recently, lein undesirable and neglected in the cabinets. lain undeciphered and neglected in the cabinets of our great museums) is obviously impossible. They tell us precisely those facts upon which inscriptions and historians are silent. throw a flood of light upon the civil law, the civil rights, and the social condition of the Egyptian people. They show us families squabbling over heritages; needy men borrowing; rich men lending; bridegrooms signing away "the totality of their goods" as the price of a pair of bright eyes; brides stipulating for nin-more records. lating for pin-money; spendthrifts mortgaging their patrimony; masters selling slaves; child-less men adopting youths, and ratifying the deed by payment of a price before witnesses; mourners bargaining for the embalmment of their dead; and priests trafficking not only in the sepulchres and memorial services of defunct generations, but actually mortgaging those hereditary privileges which gave them a prescriptive property in the family graves and funerary rites of persons yet living and generations yet unborn. For these and other revelations touching the laws, manners, and customs which prevailed in Egypt during the later ages of its ancient history, the world is almost entirely indebted to the penetration, industry, and learning of Prof. Revillout. As an in-terpreter of demotic in its innumerable phases of development and change, as an exponent of the intricacies and abuses of Egyptian law, he stands not merely without an equal, but without a competitor. When, yet further, it is remembered how, during the five years that the Revue Egyptologique has been before the public, Prof. Revillout has not only performed the duties of editor single handed, but has himself contributed at least four-fifths of its contents, the wonder with which the achievement cannot fail to be regarded is equalled only by the gratitude with which so vast a gain to science must be acknowledged. AMELIA B. EDWARDS.

# THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

It has been too often of late years that this gallery has been saddened by a collection of works by some deceased member. The little group of drawings and sketchings by the late Mrs. Mary Forster Lofthouse show to what a sweet accomplishment she had arrived, how refined was her observation, how delicate her sense of colour. Her preference for pale atmospheric effects concealed from some that this sense was not only delicate but rich; but such glowing drawings as the "Sketch at Norwich" (258) and "Cremieu" will show them how much might have been expected of her of brightness and strength. The aim after choice and delicate effects of atmospheric tones and colours is the characteristic of many members of this Society, combined in some cases with much poetic feeling. If Mr. Albert Goodwin does not appear to be always true, he is always subtle in colour and always original in design, with a tinge of the strange. His "Requiem" (174), with its sky full of grey feathery clouds, and its long stretch of curiously coloured sand, is an impressive and suggestive drawing; his "Streatley, Thames" (54), a dream of pale opalescence; in the "Fourth Voyage of Sindbad the Sailor" (338), he revels in fancy both of form and colour; but the latter is

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ays m ids, nd, pale of ncy unpleasantly startling, and the execution seems harder than in the oil-colour version of the same subject which was at the Academy a year or so since. Mr. Alfred Hunt is represented by two drawings only—one of "Warkworth Sands" (75), already treated in a large oil picture, and "Warkworth Castle" (169). The latter may be compared with Mr. W. Eyre Walker's rendering of the same subject (141), also a charming drawing but not better than his "Golden Autumn Wharfdale" (90). "A Barley Field—a Sketch" (242), is another of Mr. Walker's numerous additions to the beauty of the exhibition. Mr. J. W. North's peculiar power of making us feel J. W. North's peculiar power of making us feel the abundance, the delicacy and the intricacy of natural growths is well shown in several drawings. None is better than "Summer—Meadow Hay" (62) and "Late Autumn, Semerset" (167). Mr. Herbert Marshall communicates, as usual, his delight in the beautiful effects which the artist's eye can detect among the smoke of modern towns. His "Twilight on the Tyne" (170) and "Lying up for the Night" (308), with its orange sunset, are good small examples of his poetic realism. We do not like him quite so well when, as in "The Upper Harbour— Whitby" (180), he makes too much of vivid accidental patches of colour in his foreground, in the manner of Mr. Albert Goodwin. Mr. Charles Robertson, though a new member, seems quite at home in Pall Mall. In several drawings he shows the finished execution and drawings he shows the finished execution and charming feeling which have won him his place there. Of all his drawings none is better than "On the Yare—Norfolk" (352), small though it be. Its figures are especially good. "Unloading Nets—East Coast" is another fine example of his talent. His large drawing of an Eastern bazaar, called "Temptation," though full of skill, is scarcely so good of its kind. As long as Miss Clara Montalba does not go beyond the very clever sketching which we know so well, there will—despite the charm we know so well, there will-despite the charm of her restricted scheme of colour, her masterly touch and luminous skies—be very little new to be said about her work. Among her numerous drawings the most fresh are "Afterglow—Venice" (43), in cold and grey, and "Coming into Port—Venice" (227), in shimmering green. Of the remaining landscapes, little need be said but that they represent the state well. but that they are worthy of the well-known styles of the artists; but it must not be forgotten that among these are Mr. Poynter, Mr. Henry Moore, Mr. Birket Foster, who has an neary moore, Mr. Birket Foster, who has an unusually large drawing possessing no fresh characteristic, Mr. J. D. Watson, with his grave scenes of silvan solitude, Mr. Oswald Brierly (with one fine study of sunrise), Mr. E. A. Goodall, Mr. Arthur Glennie, Mr. T. Danby (as sunny as ever), Mr. Brewtnall, Mr. Cuthbert Rigby, Mr. Thorne Waite, the Fripps, &c.

Tripps, &c.

There is nothing among the figure subjects of very much importance. Mr. Charles Gregory contributes several good specimens of his bright country scenes in England and France, of which "In Dinan" (251) pleases us most. Mr. Glindoni has several clever drawings, the largest of which represents a party of "Conchologists" (131) in costume of the last century, examining shells and slipping over century, examining shells and slipping over rocks on the seashore. It, like "The Opportunity" (291), has a tinge too much of burlesone: nity" (291), has a tinge too much of burlesque; and we prefer his studies of single figures, especially "The Mathesis" (55), and an admirable drawing of an old dancing-master (112). Mr. Poynter sends a fine drawing of a head (325), and a "Study for a Classic Figure" (323). Mr. Albert Moore also contributes a charming "Head" (320), as well as a beautiful single figure called "The Door of a Wardrobe" (172), and a "Cartoon" of draped girls folding a table-cloth (171), a subject in which he has seized with his accustomed skill the (291), has a tinge too much of burlesque;

beauty which belongs to a gesture of ordinary life. Mr. Snields sends a fine cartoon of "Caritas," Mr. Walter Duncan some bold studies of figures from India, and Sir John Gilbert, Mr. Frederick Taylor, Mr. Carl Haag, Gilbert, Mr. Frederick Taylor, Mr. Carl Haag, Mr. Wallis, Mr. Arthur Hopkins, and Mr. E. K. Johnson are represented. The latter's "Drying Roseleaves" (188) is a very pleasant as well as a very skilful drawing. Mr. Du Maurier and Mr. Barnes send admirable examples of black and white illustrations, and there are some charming drawings by Mrs. Allingham and Miss Constance Phillott.

Among the pictures of animals are some of Among the pictures of animals are some of the greatest successes of the exhibition. Mr. Basil Bradley has seldom been seen to more advantage than in his "'May' on the Thames" (32), and "'Friends'—on the Place de la Concorda, Paris" (305), and the same may be said of Mr. Heywood Hardy in regard to his picture of a group of mares and foals called "Startled" (81). Cosmo Monkhouse.

#### NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

THE Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, has been closed for re-arrangement during the past month, and a few of the works formerly on loan have been returned, while new portraits, to the number of about sixty, acquired by purchase, gift, and loan, have been added to the collection. Eighteen of these belonged to the late Dr. David Laing, and were bequeathed with a view to the formation of a Scottish National Portrait Gallery—a project which he had greatly at heart, and regarding which he had an interesting correspondence which he had an interesting correspondence with Thomas Carlyle. They include portraits of James VI., Sir David Murray, of Goethe, the poet, and David Anderson, of Finzeauch, both probably by Jamesone; Allan Ramsay, and the Hon. Alex. Murray, by Ramsay; Field-Marshall Wade, Dr. Thomas Henry, the historian, by Martin; and other works of considerable national interest. An admirable portrait of David Laine hisself by Hordman. trait of David Laing himself, by Herdman, is also deposited in the gallery; and the same painter has lent his striking head of Carlyle, who is also represented in a drawing by S. Laurence. A large portrait of Dr. William Veitch, author of *The Greek Verbs*, a favourable example of James Irvine, has been presented by the executors of the philologist. Lady Ruthven has bequeathed a fine portrait of James Bruce, of Kinnaird, and a portrait of Sir Walter Scott, which she herself commissioned Sir F. Grant to which she herself commissioned Sir F. Grant to paint in 1831, and which claims to be the latest portrait of the author of Waverley—though the National Portrait Gallery in London has one executed by Allan in the same year—as the "Bath Miniature," bequeathed by David Laing, is the earliest. The recent purchases include a portrait of George IV., by Laurence, from the Knighton collection; an electrotype of Mary, Queen of Scots, from the Westminster effigy; a sketch of Sir Walter Scott, by Geddes; and a series of Tassie medallions. A selection of series of Tassie medallions. A selection of engraved Scottish portraits, from the extensive bequest of Mr. W. F. Watson, has also been added to the gallery.

A PROMINENT feature in the Portfolio for the coming year will be a series of articles on "Imagination in Landscape Painting," written by the editor, and copiously illustrated with by the editor, and copiously illustrated with engravings and woodcuts from pictures by the great landscape painters. Mr. Stephens will write on James Ward, Mr. Watkiss Lloyd on the Laokoon group, Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse on M. Rodin, Mr. Beavington Atkinson on some Italian painters, and Mr. J. H. Middleton (probably) on the Cosmati Family of Sculptor-Architects at Rome. Among the full-page plates promised are an etching by Mr. C. O. Murray of James Ward's "Cattle in Regent's Park," an etching

by M. Waltner of Hogarth's "Shrimp Girl," an etching by M. Richeton of Morland's "Going to the Fair," and a mezzotint engraving by M. Brunet-Debaines of Turner's "A Vessel off Yarmouth making Signals of Distress."

Mr. W. DIERKEN has on view, in the Continental Gallery, New Bond Street, a number of pictures from the recent international exhibition at Antwerp, principally of the Norwegian school, together with an interesting collection of china plaques from Vienna.

Mr. P. Mendoza will open next week, in the St. James's Gallery, King Street, an exhi-bition of drawings in black and white.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY will sell next Monday a choice collection of prints, including several valuable Rembrandts, formed by the late Mr. John West.

#### THE STAGE.

AN ENGLISH PLAYGOER IN AMERICA. New York: November 14, 1885.

A FEW remarks occur to me as I prepare to leave American—they are jottings merely—on the American Stage. That which will be most likely to interest English readers is some comparison of the Transatlantic Theatre some comparison of the Transatlantic Theatre with our own; but no comparison can be complete—least of all this rapid one—and it must be remembered, in the first place, how different are the local conditions. In England we have still centralisation: in America there is little centralisation. New York is, of Americancities, the most important theatrically: partly because it is the largest place; partly because it is the most cosmopolitan place. It is the third German city in the world. There are as many Spaniards in it as in Cadiz; as many Italians as in Ancona; as many Frenchmen as many Spaniards in it as in Cadiz; as many Italians as in Ancona; as many Frenchmen as in Tours or Nevers. And Germans, Spaniards, Italians, and Frenchmen would alone sustain almost half of the New York theatres. And then (putting the true New Yorkers out of the question) there is a great floating population of pleasure lovers—for students of the stage I dare not call them—ready to spend in the New York theatres a little of the wealth the New York theatres a little of the wealth amassed in Chicago and St. Louis, in Minneapolis and Milwaukee. For all these reasons the city of New York is, indeed, the theatrical capital of America; but Boston and Philadelphia—nay, Chicago and St. Louis themselves —play a very much more important part in American theatrical life than do Manchester and Liverpool, Cardiff and Birmingham, in English. At this moment—in this middle of November—who of our great actors is likely to be in Liverpool or Cardiff? Irving and Miss Terry, the Kendalls, and Wilson Barrett are, I suppose, at home. But neither Booth nor Joseph Jefferson nor Clara Morris is in New York. Jefferson has been at Baltimore. Reath is these this week and Clara Morris I. Booth is there this week, and Clara Morris, I believe, is somewhere or other in a sleeping-car in the West. That is one of the things to remember, then, about the American stage—the absence of centralisation. Another proof of it than those I have already given is the existence in the "provinces," so to speak, of such an excellent stock company as that which is wont to appear at the Boston "Museum."

ised—it is a company of many gifts and acquirements—but it is a company not at present at home. Mr. Gilbert, the comedian a gentleman now quite old, but in full possession of his means—would generally be deemed the most important actor now in New York. He does everything that it is possible to do for the part of Sir Anthony Absolute-he does not do quite as much for it as does Jefferson for Bob Acres. As no great master of the stage stays at home in New York habitually, to exercise his mastery there, a greater prominence then would otherwise be given is given on the New York stage to the artist of passage, the more or less chance phenomenon. But Mr. Abbey's bold step of almost doubling the prices at the Star Theatre, during the engagement of Miss Mary Anderson, has not succeeded in filling the house, even with the people who are generally persuaded that a commodity is excellent because it is dear; and, save for the unwonted hysterics of one generally brilliant and always honest writer, it may be said that the engagement of that intelligent young woman has been received by the critics with extreme coldness. They cannot "enthusisise" about her, it seems. Miss Margaret Mather, the new Juliet, draws houses more readily than Miss Anderson; yet I do not, for my own part, think that her success at the Union Square Theatre can be more than temporary. I attribute some of it to a spectacle only a little less magnificent than that at our own Lyceum. Her appearance is sufficient, perhaps, but it is not captivating. Her stage business is good, and it is often original, and it has, when it ought to have, the air of being impulsive. And this is saying a good deal. But her comedy is wanting in vivacity. She is seemingly only satisfied when she reaches the pathetic, only really happy when she has attained to the intense; and the intense once reached she never will let go. Terribly monotonous and awfully long drawn is the expression of Miss Mather's emotion. Yet the actress commends herself to our sympathies by what I understand to be the genuine modesty of her own estimate of her art. She has been for some time a rising star in the West and in the smaller cities. She has been wanted in New York before now, and, until now, has been unwilling to undertake the adventure. And now that the experiment has been made, does it seem that she has remained in the West too long; too long not by reason of years-for it may be she is still young—but by reason of the method of her art? I think, for my own part, that it does.

But must a rougher audience-one assumes that the audience of the West is rougher —confirm an artist in, so to call it, gross-ness of method? Not in every case. Our own Robson matured the most delicate of methods among a coarse enough entourage; and, in New York to-day, Mr. Harrigan shows to a third class audience, presumably yearning for sensation, the virtues of restraint and reticence, the delightfulness of artistic delicacy. Mr. Harrigan is, on the whole, the actor who has impressed me most in America-I mean, of course, excluding the finely accomplished artists whom I, like every other London play-goer, have seen in England. Harrigan acts at the Park Theatre. It is a play-house of the rank of the Surrey; and on the stage there the very poor man—especially if he be a drunken man—is a man of qualities one must revere, and the gentleman, the conventional gentleman, is there a villain; at all events, the burden of proof rests with him to show that he is not, if he can. A certain air of unnaturalness attends therefore, it will be understood, the drama of the The point of view is that of Park Theatre. the Penny Dreadful. But when Mr. Harrigan steps into the piece, as the impecunious Irishman or the humble, but erring, brother—and

that is his rôle in "Old Lavender"—it is a bit of life that one begins to see. Just such a person you noticed, the day before, preparing "clam chowder," at a wooden stall on the quay, down by the South Ferry. Or just such a man turned yesterday out of the shabbiest lager-bier-garten along the length of the Third Avenue. Like certain of the models of Zola—refuse of the Batignolles, residuum of the Quartier Mouffetard—he is not an exquisite subject. But he is a subject exquisitely studied, and pourtrayed without a trace of exaggeration, without a cheap effect. He is realised by dint of breadth of understanding—which is sympathy—and by dint of hard work.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

#### MUSIC.

THE "EUMENIDES" AT CAMBRIDGE.

WE confine our attention here entirely to the incidental music written by Dr. C. V. Stanford for the performance of the "Eumenides" at Cambridge this week. The overture at Cambridge this week. The overture is short, and foreshadows the chief event and the chief personage of the drama. The principal theme is taken from the "Revenge" chorus of the Furies, the second one is the calm and dignified "Athena" motive from the second act. The latter reminds one vaguely, but by no means unfitly, of Brahms's "Song of Destiny." The first chorus is a vigorous piece of writing. The restlessness of the furies when awakened from slumber is well depicted in the accompaniment; while the voices, now in unison, now in parts, give utterance in an effective manner to the dark and cruel thoughts of the weird daughters of hell. The second act opens with an orchestral movement, in which the Furies and Athena are again cleverly contrasted. The first chorus is interesting, especially the closing part in the major key. In the following number, in which the Furies "preach to the sons of men," the composer is at his best. In this, and also in the next chorus, there are touches of harmony and of rhythm which make one think of the Eumenides as distant relations of Wagner's Valkyrie maidens. The introductory orchestral movement to the third act comes, with its calm and flowing theme, as a welcome relief after the exciting music of the previous acts. The two choruses of the Furies, before they are pacified by Athena, are well in keeping with the situation. The flowing theme of the introduction serves for the two choruses of reconciliation. The accompaniment is extremely graceful. The last chorus, sung by the attendants of the temple as the Eumenides are led to the sacred cave assigned to them by Athena, is full of cave assigned to them by Athena, is full of simple and pleasing melody. The orchestra is busy throughout with the motive of the goddess, and with the trumpet fanfare heard at the opening of the act. Altogether, it is an exceedingly attractive number. Dr. Stanford has, in our opinion, added to his reputation by this his latest work. The music under the composer's direction was ably rendered by the band, with Mr. R. Gompertz as leader, and by the chorus, consisting of members of different colleges. J. S. SHEDLOCK.

#### RECENT CONCERTS.

MISS FANNY DAVIES made her second appearance at the Popular Concerts last Saturday afternoon. She played Mendelssohn's difficult Scherzo à Capriccio in F sharp minor in a finished and brilliant manner, and displayed agility of finger in a Gigue of Graun. She did her best to avoid an encore, but at last had to yield, and gave a short piece by Scarlatti. We hope the next time she appears she will let us hear her in a Beethoven Sonata. In Schumann's Trio in D minor Miss Davies showed

everywhere reverence and feeling for the music, but at times we could have wished for a little more strength and passion. The Scherzo, however, left little to desire. The programme included Schubert's A minor Quartett. The public never seems weary of listening to this lovely music, with its ever-changing moments of shade and sunshine. It was admirably performed under the leadership of Mdme. Néruda. Sig. Bottesini astonished the audience by his wonderful feats on the double bass; but, while fully acknowledging his cleverness and merit as an artist, we feel that he is not quite in his right place at these concerts. Mr. Maas was the vocalist, and sang with his usual success.

On Monday evening Schubert's Quartett in G (Op. 161) was performed. This grand work, written only two years before the composer's death, is wonderful for its imagination, its power, and its pathos. We cannot agree with the analyst who thinks the finale the most important of the four movements. splendid opening movement, with its Schubert characteristics and its Beethoven touches, and the andante with its tenderness and mystery are, to our mind, the strongest movements. quartett has—including this last performance—been heard only four times at the Popular Concerts, but the enthusiastic reception given to it may perhaps induce Mr. Chappell to announce it oftener. It was led by Mdme. Néruda. It was well given, but we have heard a finer rendering of the work. M. V. de Pachmann was the pianist, and his solo was Chopin's Fantasia in F minor. He was not in his heat form: but nevertheless received renture. his best form; but nevertheless received rapturous applause, and for an encore gave Chopin's Valse in D flat. In Mozart's Pianoforte Quartett in G minor he played with extreme refinement and delicacy, but at times not with-out affectation. Sig. Bottesini again played double bass solos, and Mdme. Sinico was the vocalist.

Mr. and Mrs. Henschel gave their third and last vocal recital at Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, on Wednesday afternoon. The programme, well selected, contained two of Schubert's finest songs—Memnon and Ganymede. Mr. Henschel, although the quality of his voice is not all that could be desired, sang them with great taste; and by his charming rendering of their interesting pianoforte accompaniments, added much to the effect of the music. Mrs. Henschel was in good voice, and received much applause for her finished performance of songs by Bruch, Brahms, and Mendelssohn. Besides the pieces mentioned, there were other songs and duets by French and German composers. The concert givers, encouraged by the success of their present series, propose to give another at the beginning of the new year.

Gounod's "Mors et Vita" was given, under

Gounod's "Mors et Vita" was given, under Mr. Mackenzie's direction, last Tuesday evening, at the second Novello Concert at St. James's Hall. The choir was in splendid condition, and the performance of the work—with one or two exceptions scarcely worth noticing—was an extremely fine one. The choristers paid the greatest attention to light and shade. The vocalists were Mesdames Albani and Trebelli, and Messrs. Lloyd and Santley, so the solo music was thoroughly well cared for. Mr. Mackenzie conducted throughout in a masterly manner, and his efforts to do justice to the music were duly appreciated. The hall was filled: money, indeed, was refused at the doors. The popularity of "Mors et Vita" in London is far greater than we had anticipated.

#### MUSIC NOTE,

At the Hampstead Popular Concert on next Thursday, December 10, Miss Anna Mehlig will play, coming specially from Berlin for the purpose. ittle owin-

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